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Police chief: 3 people killed in Oklahoma Walmart shooting

By SEAN MURPHY **Associated Press**

DUNCAN, Oklahoma (AP)

— Two men and a woman were fatally shot Monday morning outside a Walmart store in southwestern Oklahoma, and the shooter is among the dead, authorities said.

Two victims were shot inside a car and the third died in the parking lot just before 10 a.m. outside the store in Duncan, Police Chief Danny Ford said.

Authorities did not immediately describe a motivation for the shooting. Ford told The Associated Press that investigators believe the gunman shot the male and female victims and then turned the gun on himself.

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A member of the Oklahoma State Bureau of Investigation works the scene of a fatal shooting in the parking lot of a Walmart in Duncan, Okla., on Monday, Nov. 18, 2019. **Associated Press**







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'Wall of water': Lawsuits detail deadly Navy collision

By REBECCA SANTANA Associated Press

NEW ORLEANS (AP) — Survivors and descendants of those killed when a container ship collided with a U.S. Navy destroyer off Japan's coast are suing the ship's Japanese charterer, according to a lawsuit filed Monday that details the survivors' scramble for safety as water rushed in.

In dramatic detail, the lawsuit against Tokyo-based NYK Line lays out how survivors of the collision saw water rushing at them as they scrambled for the exits and, in some cases, had to swim for their lives. Seven U.S. sailors were killed in the collision that happened June 17, 2017, as the two ships were trying to merge into heavy traffic. An underwater gash sent water flooding into two sleeping compartments at a time when most of the nearly 300 sailors on board would have been sleeping.

Sailor Jackson Schrimsher was one of the last to make it out of the sleeping quarters alive, according to the lawsuit. He recalled a "wall of water" coming at him as he tried to make it to the door — "scuttle" in Navy parlance.

"He remembers a locker falling over onto him and a Sailor pushing him out from under it. By the time he reached the port-side scuttle, he was completely submerged.

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This July 11, 2017, file photo provided by the U.S. Navy shows the USS Fitzgerald in dry dock in Yokosuka, Japan, for repairs and assessment of damage sustained from a June 17 collision with a cargo ship in the waters off of Japan.

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Plaintiff Schrimsher stuck his hand up out of the water through the scuttle, and was pulled to safety," the lawsuit said.

The lawsuits allege personnel aboard the ACX Crystal failed to follow procedures intended to warn their own crew and nearby ships of impending danger.

For example, the lawsuit says it wasn't until one minute before the collision that ACX Crystal operators took the ship off autopilot and tried to evade a collision. The ACX Crystal also failed to sound any short blasts to alert the USS Fitzgerald of its position, the lawsuit alleges.

In a statement, David Schloss, a lawyer for the plaintiffs, said that the collision was "entirely avoidable."

"The negligent and reckless conduct of the Crystal's crew led to the horrific drowning deaths of seven young Navy sailors. These brave young men leave behind children, parents, spouses, and siblings who continue to try to make sense of the senseless," Schloss said.

A request for comment submitted on the company's website was not immediately returned.

The two lawsuits were filed Monday in federal court in Louisiana on behalf of relatives of the seven dead sailors and 40 sailors who survived as well as some family members of the survivors. The lawsuit is asking in excess of \$287 million. The lawsuit says NYK Line had "principal responsibility for the navigation and/ or operation of the ACX Crystal."

The lawsuit laid out the fear and panic likely experienced by the seven sailors who died as water flooded into the sleeping compartment.

"None of the decedent Sailors were killed by the initial impact of the collision. On the contrary, all decedent Sailors suffered from a significant period of extreme conscious pain and suffering and pre-death fright from the time of the collision until their deaths by drowning," the lawsuit states.

Associated Press

The collision was one of two deadly accidents involving American Navy personnel that summer.

On Aug. 21, the USS John S. McCain — a Navy destroyer — collided with a tanker near Singapore. Ten sailors aboard the McCain died. The Navy conducted a series of investigations and reviews into the two collisions, concluding that the accidents were the result of poor judgment, bad decision-making and widespread training and leadership failures by the commanders and crew who didn't quickly recognize and respond to unfolding emergencies.

Police chief: 3 people killed in Oklahoma Walmart shooting

Continued from Front

Stephens County District Attorney Jason Hicks authorities said during the news conference Monday afternoon that there was never an active shooter inside the store and he described the shooting as an isolated incident. He did not further explain.

Hicks said the two victims had been inside the Walmart Money Center, which offers check-cashing, money orders, tax preparation and other services, before they were killed, but that the shooter did not enter the business.

Two bodies covered with sheets were visible in the parking lot Monday afternoon. One body was in the driver's seat of a red, two-door car. The other body was lying on the ground next to the vehicle.

Bullet holes were visible in the car's windshield. Police said in a Facebook post that a handgun was found at the scene. At the news conference, Ford described the gun as semi-automatic but said he had no further details. He said the Oklahoma State Bureau of Investigation was still processing the scene.

Ford said he believed nine shots were fired.

Authorities have not released the identities of those killed but did confirm the shooter was among the dead. Ford said all three knew each other but declined to describe their relationships or other identifying information pending notification of immediate

He said all three were dead when police arrived just minutes after the shooting. Walmart spokeswoman LeMia Jenkins initially said no staff were involved. Jenkins later released

a statement offering thoughts and prayers for the family of the woman killed in the shooting, who she said had been with the company for less than two months. Jenkins said the woman was at the Walmart during her free time and wasn't scheduled to work that day.

Duncan is about 80 miles (130 kilometers) south of Oklahoma City. The Walmart is in a commercial center that includes a sporting goods store and a dollar store along U.S. Highway 81, the main road that passes through Duncan heading south toward Texas.

Aaron Helton, of Duncan, said he was parking outside the Walmart where he planned to buy groceries when he heard about nine gunshots.

"I arrived and there were three bodies," Helton said. Helton was one of many nearby witnesses who fortunately was not hit by gunfire, Ford said. The closest person was in a vehicle three parking spaces away from where the victims sat, Ford said.

There were more than 100 vehicles in the parking lot about two hours after the shooting plus a steady stream of customers coming and going from Walmart, which remained open for business.

It was at least the third shooting at a Walmart in the U.S. this year. A Walmart store in El Paso, Texas, reopened Thursday after being closed since August, when a gunman opened fire in the busy store, killing 22. Just days before, two Walmart employees in Mississippi were killed by a man authorities described as a disgruntled Walmart worker.

The killings in Oklahoma



Law enforcement work the scene where two men and a woman were fatally shot Monday, Nov. 18, 2019, outside a Walmart store in Duncan, Okla.

Associated Press

come amid a spate of highprofile shootings across the U.S. A 16-year-old student at a high school in the city of Santa Clarita outside Los Angeles shot and killed two classmates and wounded three other teens Thursday before shooting himself in the head. He died the next day.

In New Jersey, players and spectators ran for cover Friday night when a gunman opened fire at a high school football game, wounding two people. And on Sunday, four people were killed and six wounded in Fresno, California, where police say two shooters sneaked into a backyard party and shot into a group of Hmong family and friends.





U.S. angers Palestinians with reversal on Israeli settlements

By MATTHEW LEE **AP Diplomatic Writer** WASHINGTON (AP) — The

Trump administration on Monday said it no longer considers Israeli settlements in the West Bank to be a violation of international law, reversing four decades of American policy and further undermining the Palestinians' effort to gain statehood.

Secretary of State Mike Pompeo announced that the U.S. is repudiating the 1978 State Department legal opinion that held that civilian settlements in the occupied territories are "inconsistent with international law." Israeli leaders welcomed the decision while Palestinians and other nations warned that it undercut any chance of a broader peace deal.

Pompeo told reporters at the State Department that the Trump administration believes any legal questions about settlements should be resolved by Israeli courts and that declaring them a violation of international law distracts from larger efforts to negotiate a peace deal.

"Calling the establishment of civilian settlements inconsistent with international law has not advanced the cause of peace," Pompeo said. "The hard truth is that there will never be a iudicial resolution to the conflict, and arguments about who is right and who is wrong as a matter of international law will not bring peace."

The change reflects the administration's embrace of a hard-line Israeli view at the expense of the Palestinian quest for statehood. Similar actions have included President Donald Trump's decision to recognize Jerusalem as Israel's capital, the movement of the U.S.

the closure of the Palestinian diplomatic office in Washington.

Embassy to that city and unlikely to gather much international support by endorsing a position contrary to the global consensus.

"The U.S. administration has The Netanyahu govern-



Secretary of State Mike Pompeo speaks at a news conference at the State Department in Washington, Monday, Nov. 18, 2019. **Associated Press**

lost its credibility to play any future role in the peace process," said Nabil Abu Rdeneh, a spokesman for Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas.

European Union warned of the potential repercussions in a statement following the announcement that did not mention the U.S.

"All settlement activity is illegal under international law and it erodes the viability of the two-state solution and the prospects for a lasting peace," said the statement from the 28-nation bloc. "The EU calls on Israel to end all settlement activity, in line with its obligations as an occupying

Even though the decision is largely symbolic, it could give a boost to Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, who is fighting for his political survival after failing to form a coalition government following recent elections.

It could also spell further trouble for the administration's peace plan, which is

ment was dealt a blow on settlements just last week when the European Court of Justice ruled products made in Israeli settlements must be labeled as such.

The 1978 legal opinion on settlements is known as the Hansell Memorandum. It had been the basis for more than 40 years of carefully worded U.S. opposition to settlement construction that had varied in its tone and strength, depending on the president's position. The international community overwhelmingly considers the settlements illegal based in part on the Fourth Geneva Convention, which bars an occupying power from transferring parts of its own civilian population to occupied territory.

In the final days of the Obama administration, the U.S. allowed the U.N. Security Council to pass a resolution declaring the settlements a "flagrant violation" of international law.

Pompeo said that the U.S. would not take a position on the legality of specific settlements, that the new

policy would not extend beyond the West Bank and that it would not create a precedent for other territorial disputes.

He also said the decision did not mean the administration was prejudging the status of the West Bank in any eventual Israeli-Palestinian peace agreement.

For Netanyahu, the welcome boost comes at a time when he has been weakened domestically by mounting legal woes and two inconclusive elections this vear.

Unable to secure a parliamentary majority, Netanyahu is now anxiously waiting to see if his chief rival, Benny Gantz, can put together a coalition. If Gantz fails, the country could be forced into a third election, with Netanyahu facing the distraction of a trial.

Netanyahu's office released a statement saying the policy shift "rights a historical wrong" concerning settlements.

"This policy reflects an historical truth - that the Jewish people are not foreign colonialists in Judea and Samaria," it said, using the Israeli terms for the West Bank.

Gantz, meanwhile, plauded Pompeo's portant statement, once again demonstrating its firm stance with Israel and its commitment to the security and future of the entire Middle East."

Pompeo dismissed suggestions that the decision would further isolate the U.S. or Israel in the international community, though Jordan's Foreign Minister Ayman Safadi wrote on Twitter that the settlements hurt peace prospects. "We warn of the seriousness of the change in the U.S. position towards the settlements and its repercussions

on all efforts to achieve peace," he said. Shortly after Pompeo's announcement, the U.S. Embassy in Jerusalem issued an advisory warning for Americans planning to travel in the West Bank, Jerusalem and Gaza, saying, "Individuals and groups opposed to (Pompeo's) announcement may target U.S. government facilities, U.S. private interests, and U.S. citizens." It called on them "to maintain a high level of vigilance and take appropriate steps to increase their security awareness in light of the current environment."

Israel captured the West Bank and east Jerusalem in the 1967 Mideast war and auickly began settling the newly conquered territory. Today, some 700,000 Israeli settlers live in the two areas, which are both claimed by the Palestinians for their state.

After the war, it immediately annexed east Jerusalem, home to the holy city's most important religious sites, in a move that is not internationally recognized. But Israel has never annexed the West Bank, even as it has dotted the territory with scores of settlements and tiny settlement outposts. While claiming the fate of the settlements is a subject for negotiations, it has steadily expanded them. Some major settlements have over 30,000 residents, resembling small cities and serving as suburbs of Jerusalem and Tel Aviv. The Palestinians and most of the world say the settlements undermine hopes for a two-state solution by gobbling up land sought by the Palestinians.

Israel's settlement activities have also drawn attention to its treatment of Palestinians.



U.S. draws fewer new foreign students for 3rd straight year

By COLLIN BINKLEY **AP Education Writer**

The number of foreign students coming to U.S. colleges and universities continued to fall last year, according to a new report, but the Trump administration says the drop should be blamed on high tuition costs and not students' concerns over the nation's political atmosphere.

An annual report from the Institute of International Education found that the number of newly enrolled international students dipped by 1% in fall 2018 compared to the year before. It follows decreases of 7% and 3% in the previous two years, which were the first downturns in more than a decade.

The downturn is a worry for universities that have come to rely on tuition from foreign students, who are typically charged higher rates. Some schools have blamed President Donald Trump's rhetoric against immigrants for driving students away, but officials at the State Department, which pays for the annual report, dismissed the idea. Caroline Casagrande, deputy assistant secretary for academic programs at the department's Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs, said students are deterred by the high cost to attend U.S. schools. She said the downturn is tied to students who were applying to college during the Obama administration, and that the numbers ap-



In this June 16, 2019 file photo, the Autherine Lucy Clock Tower at the Malone Hood Plaza stands in front of Foster Auditorium on the University of Alabama campus in Tuscaloosa, Ala.

Associated Press

pear to be rebounding under Trump.

"What we've seen today is a dramatically better picture compared to last year's declines," Casagrande said during a call with reporters. "The Trump administration has dedicated more resources than ever to international student mobility."

While fewer new students are coming, the study found that more are staying for professional training after they graduate. More than 220,000 were granted permission to stay for temporary work through a federal program, an increase of about 10% over fall 2017. China continued to send more students than any other country, followed by India and South Korea and Saudi Arabia. But booming years of growth from China have leveled off. The number of overall Chinese students in the country ticked up by less than 2%, and some campuses have seen major decreases in Chinese enrollment.

The number of Chinese students at the University of Alabama has decreased by 43% over the past two years, to 266, according to the university's annual enrollment report. At the University of Iowa and at Kansas State University, Chinese enrollment fell by about a third in that span.

Declines from China have been attributed to several factors.

Chinese students have reported difficulty getting U.S. visas amid a trade war between the two nations. Universities in Australia and Canada have worked harder to attract Chinese students.

And some scholars say concerns over academic espionage have fueled anti-China sentiment on U.S. campuses.

State Department officials said that they're working to ease tensions and encourage Chinese students to study in the U.S. The department recently sent a delegation to China to promote academic exchange, and U.S. Ambassador Terry Branstad recently wrote an op-ed in a Chinese youth publication inviting students to study at U.S. schools.

"The State Department has been working hard to make sure Chinese students know they're welcome in the United States." Casaarande said. "We want these Chinese students here."

The report also found that far fewer students are coming from Saudi Arabia, a shift that began in 2017 after the Gulf nation scaled back a scholarship program for global study. There were also dips in students coming from South Korea, Japan and Mexico. Meanwhile, the U.S. attracted growing numbers of students from Asia, Latin America and Africa. Numbers from Brazil and Bangladesh jumped 10% last year, the report found, while Nigeria ticked up 6%. Many universities have shifted their recruiting efforts to those areas in recent years as they look to offset losses from China.

The academic subjects students come to study are also starting to shift. The number of students studying business, an area that has long been a draw for Chinese students, fell by 7% last year, the report found. Meanwhile, math and computer science saw a 9% increase and surpassed business as the No. 2 subject behind engineering.

U.S. group says 803 unbelted rear-seat passengers died in 2018

DETROIT (AP) — More than belted. The group, which found that rear-seat safety 800 rear-seat passengers who weren't wearing seat belts were killed last year in U.S. traffic crashes, and ingrear belt use. Of the 30 seeking public comment a highway safety group says states aren't making enough progress in getting people to buckle up.

The Governors Highway Safety Association says in a report released Monday that more than 400 of the 803 people who died would have survived if they were

represents state highway safety offices, says 20 states in 2013 to 76% last year. still don't have laws requir- The federal government is states with laws, it's not a on a rule requiring autoprimary offense in 11 states, meaning that police can't stop a car if rear-seat passenaers are unbelted.

According to the association, the number of rearseat passengers killed in crashes dropped from 883 in 2013. But surveys have

belt use dropped from 78%

makers to warn drivers if rear passengers aren't belted. The comment period expires on Nov. 26.

A law requiring the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration to enact the rule was passed by Congress in 2012.



In this May 15, 2008, file photo, motorists sit in a Chicago traffic

Associated Press



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Trump backing off banning vaping flavors popular with teens

By JONATHAN LEMIRE, MAT-THEW PERRONE and DAR-LENE SUPERVILLE

Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — When President Donald Trump boarded Air Force One to fly to a Kentucky campaign rally two weeks ago, a plan was in place for him to give final approval to a plan to ban most flavored e-cigarettes.

By the time Trump landed back at Joint Base Andrews outside Washington a few hours later, the plan was off. And its future is unclear. For nearly two months, momentum had been building inside the White House to try to halt a youth vaping epidemic that experts feared was hurting as many as 5 million teenagers.

Both first lady Melania

Trump and Ivanka Trump, the president's daughter and senior adviser, pushed for the ban, which was also being championed internally by White House counselor Kellyanne Conway, who has taken the lead on some public health issues. But as Trump sat surrounded by political advisers on the flights to and from Lex-

the flights to and from Lexington, he grew reluctant to sign the ban, convinced it could alienate voters who would be financially or otherwise affected by a vaping ban, according to two White House and campaign officials not authorized to speak publicly about private conversations.

A news conference scheduled by Health and Human Services Secretary Alex Azar to announce the ban was canceled, while more meetings with industry leaders and lobbyists were proposed, according to

the officials. Trump tweeted last week that he'll be meeting with vaping industry representatives, medical professionals and others "to come up with an acceptable solution to the Vaping and E-cigarette dilemma." The White House has yet to announce a date for a meeting.

This month, Trump campaign manager Brad Parscale and others showed the president polling data indicating that e-cigarette users could abandon him if he followed through with the ban, the officials said.

Campaign aides also highlighted an aggressive social media campaign — #IVapelVote — in which advocates claimed a ban would force the closure of vaping shops, eliminating jobs and sending users of electronic cigarettes back to traditional smokes. Parscale also pointed out the risk that a ban could have on e-cigarette users in key battleground states that Trump narrowly won in 2016.

Others in the West Wing, including Conway, have argued that a ban could be a winning issue with suburban voters, including mothers, who have fled the president in large numbers. Few would predict where Trump, who is known to abruptly change his mind, would end up since he recently has been consumed with other matters, notably televised impeachments hearings.

The vaping industry's largest trade group said Monday the administration was heading "in the right direction for adult smokers and their families." "Bans don't care. But there are millions more moms and dads who are deeply concerned." Robin Koval, president and CEO of the Truth Initiative, a nonprofit, anti-tobacco

the officials. Trump tweeted last week that he'll be meeting with vaping industry representatives, medical professionals and others "to

Gregory Conley, president of the American Vaping

organization, called on to protect the public from Trump to implement the tobacco-related disease original plan.

"The health of America's youth must come first and is not for sale or political gain," Koval said in a state-

tobacco-related disease and death, and prevent ecigarettes from becoming an on-ramp to nicotine addiction for a generation of youth," she said.

But within days, Trump tweeted that e-cigarettes

But within days, Trump tweeted that e-cigarettes might be a less-harmful alternative for smokers, a point long made by the industry. Meanwhile, vaping lobbyists, conservative groups and Republican lawmakers from key states warned Trump that a crackdown could cost him with voters.

The Vapor Technology Association launched ads and an online campaign promising to punish Trump and other politicians who support vaping restrictions. Conservative groups that have long promoted vaping as an alternative to smoking, including Grover Norquist's Americans for Tax Reform, joined the criticism.

That group and others helped organize protests against banning flavors, including one outside the White House.

Trump supporters also showed up at some of his campaign rallies holding signs expressing their opposition to a ban.

The industry warned some 15,000 to 19,000 vaping shops across the country - and jobs - could be wiped out if flavors were eliminated.

The administration was widely expected earlier this month to announce a scaled-back flavor ban that would exempt menthol, citing research that the flavor was not widely used by children. But no decision came.



- In this April 23, 2014 file photo, a man smokes an electronic cigarette in Chicago.

Associated Press

Association, an advocacy organization, added that the government should put in place "sensible and targeted regulations" before it resorts to prohibition, which opponents of a ban said could lead to the creation of an underground market for e-cigarettes.

But Matt Myers, president of the Campaign for Tobacco-Free Kids, said Trump would be guilty of "terrible public policy" and "bad politics" if he backs down. "This is one of the very few issues on which public views are unified," Myers said in a telephone interview. "There are a small number of vape shop owners who are loud and don't care. But there are millions more moms and dads who are deeply concerned." Robin Koval, president and CEO of the Truth Initiative,

ences with vaping.
Trump's initial pledge Sept.
11 to ban virtually all flavored e-cigarettes stunned vaping proponents and was immediately embraced by anti-tobacco advocates. In an Oval Office appearance with the first lady and Azar, Trump said the government would

act within weeks to protect

children from fruit, candy,

dessert and other sweet

ment. The first lady opened

the White House to a group

of young people from the

Truth Initiative in October to

tell her about their experi-

vaping flavors, including mint and menthol.

The announcement followed a tweet two days earlier by Mrs. Trump expressing concern "about

the growing epidemic of

e-cigarette use in our chil-

"We need to do all we can



Judge denies DNA testing sought 13 years post-execution

By ADRIAN SAINZ and TRA-**VIS LOLLER**

Associated Press

MEMPHIS, Tenn. (AP) — The daughter of a man executed 13 years ago for murder does not have legal standing to seek DNA testing of evidence in the case, a Memphis judge ruled Monday, but the judge also said the ruling wasn't based on the merits of the claims.

April Alley is the daughter of Sedley Alley, executed in 2006 for the murder two decades earlier of Marine Lance Cpl. Suzanne Collins. Earlier this year, April Alley petitioned the court on behalf of her father's estate to order DNA testing. The move came after investigators in a Missouri murder case contacted the Innocence Project about a possible connection between a suspect in that case and Collins.

"I'm heartbroken," Alley said in a Monday statement about the ruling. "Frankly, I'm numb."

Since the early 1990s, 22 death row inmates around the U.S. have been absolved of crimes through DNA evidence. Innocence Project attorneys hoped to use such evidence for the first time to exonerate a person who has already been execut-



- In this Oct. 14, 2019 file photo, April Alley, front, daughter of Sedley Alley, hugs a member of her legal counsel in a Memphis, Tenn., courtroom.

ed. A statement from the Innocence Project on Monday said they were very disappointed in the decision and have already filed a notice of appeal.

Collins was 19 and stationed at the former Memphis Naval Air Station in Millington, Tennessee, when she went jogging in a nearby park on the night of July 11, 1985. Her body was discovered early the next day. She had

been beaten, raped and mutilated.

Sedley Alley confessed to the crime after 12 hours of questioning but later said the confession was coerced.

Shortly before Alley was executed, Innocence Project co-founder Barry Scheck helped argue for DNA evidence testing. The request was denied. Alley, 50, who had spent two decades

Associated Press

on Tennessee's death row, was put to death by injection on June 28, 2006.

That might have been the end of the story if Scheck had not received a call earlier this year from investigators in St. Louis. He said they wanted to discuss a possible connection between Collins and Thomas Bruce, who is jailed in Missouri and charged with sexually assaulting two women and

killing a third at a Catholic Supply store there about a year ago. Scheck said investigators had told him Bruce attended the same avionics course as Collins in Millington.

St. Louis County Prosecuting Attorney Wesley Bell has made no public statements about a possible connection between Collins and Bruce. A phone message left Monday with Tim Swope, a spokesman for Bell, was not immediately returned.

Brice Donnelly, Bruce's attorney, declined comment. April Alley has been reluctant to talk about her effort to get DNA testing. Along with her brother, she witnessed her father's execution. They had their hands up against the glass as he spoke his last words, telling them he loved them and to "stay strong."

On Monday, she issued statement thanking her supporters and vowing to "see this through to the end, no matter what it takes." Shelby County Criminal Court Judge Paula Skahan heard arauments in the case last month and dismissed the petition Monday, ruling that April Alley lacked standing to bring the petition on behalf of her father's estate.

Chick-fil-A halts donations to 3 groups against gay marriage

By DEE-ANN DURBIN AP Business Writer

Chick-fil-A is ending donations to three groups that oppose gay marriage in an effort to halt protests and broaden its customer base. But the move has angered some of the fast food chain's fans. The Atlantabased company said Monday that starting next year, it will focus its giving on three areas: hunger, homelessness and education.

"This decision was made to create more clarity — and to better address three critical needs facing children across the communities Chick-fil-A serves," the company said in a statement. Chick-fil-A Presi-

dent Tim Tassopoulos said angered some conservathe company — which is closed on Sundays — will still consider donations to whether it will consider an organization's position on gay rights before donating. In 2017 and 2018, the Chickfil-A Foundation gave \$2.4 million to the Missouri-based Fellowship of Christian Athletes for sports camps for underserved youth and \$165,000 to the Salvation Army to buy Christmas gifts for needy children. The foundation also gave \$6,000 to the Paul Anderson Youth Homes.

Chick-fil-A's decision to no longer support the groups

tives, who say they stood by the restaurant in 2012 when CEO Dan Cathy said faith-based groups. The in several interviews that company wouldn't say he didn't support gay marriage. In more recent interviews, Cathy — who is the son of Chick-fil-A's founder — has reiterated his personal beliefs but says he treats all customers with respect. Former Arkansas Gov. Mike Huckabee said in a tweet Monday that he coordinated a national appreciation day for the company in 2012. Now, Chick-fil-A is betraying supporters, he said. "They surrendered to anti-Christian hate groups. Tragic." Huckabee tweeted. Chick-fil-A, which operates



This July 19, 2012, file photo shows a Chick-fil-A fast food restaurant in Atlanta. Chick-fil-A is ending donations to three groups that oppose gay marriage in an effort to halt protests and broaden its customer base.

Associated Press

around 2,400 restaurants, has been also feeling heat from opponents. Earlier this year, airports in Buffalo, New York, and San Antonio blocked the restaurant from opening at their sites

because of the company's gay rights record. Some college campuses have banned the chain. A location in the United Kingdom is closing because of protests.



650 House seats, 74 days to Brexit: UK election in numbers

By JILL LAWLESS **Associated Press**

LONDON (AP) — There's less than a month to go until Britain's Dec. 12 election, and the country's political parties are battling over funding promises, economic priorities and Brexit plans. Here is a look at some key numbers in an election that could determine not only who governs Britain, but when, how — or even whether — the country leaves the European Union:

46 million: The number of eligible voters in the U.K.

650: The number of seats in the House of Commons, all up for grabs in the election. Any party that wins a majority — or becomes the largest party, even without a majority — can form a government, with its leader as prime minister.

298: The number of seats held before the election by Prime Minister Boris Johnson's ruling Conservatives — more than 20 short of a majority. The government's lack of a majority meant it struggled to pass key measures needed for Britain to leave the European Union. Johnson says if he wins a majority he will "get Brexit done."

243: The number of seats held by the left-of-center



Britain's Prime Minister Boris Johnson speaking at the Confederation of British Industry (CBI) annual conference in London, Monday Nov. 18, 2019.

opposition Labour Party, which is battling to return to office for the first time since 2010. Labour is trying to downplay Brexit and focus on health care, education and social welfare. It has also announced a bold plan to provide free broadband internet access to every British household.

96: The number of years since Britain last had a December election. British elections are usually held in the late spring, when the weather is better and the days are longer.

74: The number of days until Britain is due to leave the EU. Brexit day was supposed to be Oct. 31, but with Britain's politicians deadlocked, the EU granted a three-month delay until Jan. 31.

More than 70: The number of lawmakers not running for re-election amid Britain's toxic political atmosphere. Politicians on both sides of the Brexit argument have received abuse and threats. Those leaving include many moderate pro-EU Conservatives, Labour legislators who say their party has not stamped out anti-Semitism and high-profile female legislators, who have received a disproportionate amount of abuse.

Associated Press

42.8%: The portion of political parties' campaign spending that went to digital advertising during the last election in 2017 — up from just 0.3% in 2011. It's expected to be even more this time.

35: The number of seats in Parliament held by the Scottish National Party, which opposes Brexit and wants Scotland to leave the U.K. and become an

independent country.

20: The number of seats held in Parliament by the pro-EU Liberal Democrats, who want to cancel Brexit altogether.

19.5 million pounds (\$25 million): The maximum a party can spend on advertising, campaigning costs and other expenses if it contests all 650 constituencies across the U.K. The spending limit is calculated at 30,000 pounds (\$38,650) per seat.

9: The number of years the Conservative Party has been in power.

3: The number of smaller pro-EU parties that have joined together in a tactical voting plan: the Liberal Democrats, the Greens and the Welsh party Plaid Cymru. They have pledaed not to run against each other in dozens of seats to make it more likely that pro-EU candidates will prevail.

0: The number of seats in Parliament now held by the recently formed Brexit Party, which wants to leave the EU without a divorce deal. The party, led by Nigel Farage, hopes to change that but is not running in over 300 Conservative strongholds to avoid splitting the pro-Brexit vote.

Russia returns 3 seized ships to Ukraine, talks about summit

Associated Press

MOSCOW (AP) — Three Ukrainian naval ships that were seized by Russia nearlv a year ago have been returned, Russia's Foreign Ministry said Monday.

The two gunboats and a tug were taken by the Russian coast auard on Nov. 25, 2018, as they maneuvered near the Kerch Strait that connects the Black Sea with the Azov Sea. The Kerch Strait runs between mainland Russia and Russia-annexed Crimea.

Russia claimed the Ukrainian ships had violated procedures for transiting the strait, while the Ukrainians said they were traveling in



This video grab provided by the Krym 24 tv station via AP Television shows a seized Ukrainian ship, left, is towed by a Russian coast guard boat out of the port in Kerch, Crimea, with the Kerch bridge in the background, Sunday, Nov. 17, 2019. **Associated Press**

international waters.

The Russian coast guard fired shots, then seized the ships and their crew

of 24 Ukrainian sailors. The sailors were detained for 10 months and returned home in September as part Ukraine's Foreign Ministry said that the Ukrainian authorities will conduct a thorough check of the ships to make sure that no equipment is missing. It said that regardless of the ships' return, Ukraine will press the case against the Russian seizure of the ships in an international tribunal. Russian President Vladimir Putin informed French President Emmanuel Macron about the vessels' transfer in a phone call Monday. The Kremlin said in the call that the two leaders focused on the upcoming meeting of the leaders of Russia, Ukraine, Germany and

of a prisoner exchange. France to discuss a settlement for the five-year conflict in eastern Ukraine that has killed at least 13,000 people. The fighting began in 2014 after Russia annexed Crimea from Ukraine and pits Russia-backed separatists against Ukrainian troops. The Kremlin said Putin and Macron agreed the meeting scheduled for Dec. 9 should help "quickly and fully" implement a 2015 peace plan for eastern Ukraine that was brokered by France and Germany. The Minsk agreement envisages broad autonomy for the separatist regions in eastern Ukraine and an amnesty for the rebels.



Flood-hit Venice's dwindling population faces mounting woes

By COLLEEN BARRY **Associated Press**

VENICE, Italy (AP) — One of only four oar makers for Venice's famed gondoliers, Paolo Brandolisio wades through his groundfloor workshop for the third time in a week of recordbreaking floods, despairing of any help from national or local institutions.

"If these phenomena continue to repeat themselves, you have to think about how to defend yourself," he says. "Because the defenses that the politicians have made don't seem to be nearly enough."

"You have to think of yourself," he repeats.

Venetians are fed up with what they see as inadequate responses to the city's mounting problems: record-breaking flooding, environmental and safety threats from cruise ship traffic and the burden on services from over-tourism.

They feel largely left to their own devices, with everfewer Venetians living in the historic part of the city to defend its interests and keep it from becoming mainly a tourist domain.

The historic flooding this week — marked by three floods over 1.5 meters (nearly 5 feet) and the highest in 53 years at 1.87 meters (6 feet, 1 inch) has sharpened calls to create an administration that recognizes the uniqueness of Venice, for both its concentration of treasures and its increasing vulnerability.

Flood damage has been estimated at hundreds of millions of euros (dollars), but the true scope will only



In this photo taken on Sunday, Nov. 17, 2019, Paolo Brandolisio stands in his oars flooded laboratory, in Venice, Italy.

become clear with time. Architectural masterpieces like St. Mark's Cathedral still need to be fully inspected and damaged manuscripts from the Music Conservatory library treated by experts — not to mention the personal losses suffered by thousands of residents and businesses.

"I feel ashamed," said Fabio Moretti, the president of Venice's historic Academy of Fine Arts that was once presided over by Tiepolo and Canova. "These places are left in our custody. They don't belong to us. They belong to humanity. It sees systemic lapses in the is a heritage that needs to be preserved."

The frustration goes far beyond the failure to complete and activate 78 underwater barriers that were designed to prevent just the kind of damage that Venice has endured this week. With the system not yet completed or even partially tested after 16 years of work and 5 billion euros (\$5.5 billion) invested, many are skeptical it will even work.

"This is a climate emergency. This is sick governance of the city," said Jane Da Mosto, an environmental scientist and executive director of the NGO "We Are Here Venice," whose aim it is to keep Venice a living city as opposed to a museum or theme park.

Brandolisio, the oar builder, official response, including the failure of local authorities to organize services immediately for those in need, an absence filled by volunteers. That included both a network of students who helped clear out wa**Associated Press**

terlogged property for those in need and professionals like water-taxi drivers who offered transport during the emergency.

For now, he is taking matters into his own hands.

To protect his bottega where he not only makes oars but carves ornamental oar posts for gondolas or as sculpture, Brandolisio said he will have to consider raising the floor by at least 20 centimeters and buying a pump — precautions he never previously deemed necessary.

"I think I will lose at least two or three weeks of work," he said. "I will have to dry everything. Lots of things fell into the water, so I need to clean all the tools that can get rusty. I need to take care of wood that got wet, which I can't use because it cannot be glued."

At the public level, proposals for better administering the city including granting some level of autonomy to Venice, already enjoyed by some Italian regions like Trentino-Alto-Adige with its German-speaking minority, or offering tax breaks to encourage Venice's repopulation. Just 53,000 people live in the historic part of the city that tourists know as Venice, down by a third from a generation ago and dropping by about 1,000 people a year. The population of the lagoon islands including glass-making Murano and the Lido beach destination — is just under 30,000, and dwindling too. That means fewer people watching the neighborhood, monitoring for public maintenance issues or neighbors in need. Many leave because of the increased expense or the daily difficulties in living in a city of canals, which can make even a simple errand

Activists also say local politicians are more beholden to the city's mainland population, which has jumped to 180,000 people not directly affected, for the most part, by the same issues as the lagoon dwellers.

a minor odyssey.

They are pushing for passage of a referendum on Dec. 1 that would give the historic center and islands their own administration, separate from that serving more populous Mestre and the industrial port of Marghera. Those areas were annexed to Venice by the Fascist dictator Benito Mussolini, and not necessarily a natural fit.



Libyan officials: Airstrike kills 7 workers in Tripoli

By SAMY MAGDY **Associated Press**

CAIRO (AP) — An airstrike slammed into a biscuit factory in Libya's capital, Tripoli, on Monday killing at least seven workers including five foreign nationals and two Libyans, health authorities said, in what the U.N. envoy to Libya said could be a war crime.

Tripoli has been the scene of fighting since April between the self-styled Libyan National Army, led by Gen. Khalifa Hifter, and an array of militias loosely allied with the U.N.-supported but weak government which holds the capital.

The Tripoli-based health ministry said the airstrike took place in the capital's Wadi el-Rabie neighborhood, south of the city center where fighting has been raging for months.

Malek Merset, a spokesman with the ministry, told The Associated Press that the dead included five workers from Bangladesh, and two Libyan nationals.

The airstrike also wounded at least 33 workers, mostly from Niger and Bangladesh, who were taken to nearby hospitals for urgent treatment, Merset said.

Footage shared online showed wounded people with bandages and blood on their legs on stretchers before being taken by ambulances to hospitals.

Ghassan Salame, the U.N. Salame said.



A man injured in an airstrike that hit a biscuit factory is treated in a hospital in the capital, Tripoli, Libya, Monday, Nov. 18, 2019.

U.N. Security Council on to verify the facts. caused 10 deaths and 35 injuries, and could constitute a war crime.

"Regardless of whether the attack deliberately targeted the factory or was an indiscriminate attack, it may constitute a war crime,"

envoy for Libya, told the He said the U.N. is working es. The months of com-

Monday that the attack The Tripoli-based government blamed the airstrike on Hifter's LNA, which did not return calls seeking comment.

Fighting for Tripoli has stalled in recent months, with both sides dug in and shelling one another along the city's southern reach**Associated Press**

bat have killed hundreds of people and displaced thousands.

Salame said the front lines in southern Tripoli are "highly fluid" and blamed what he said was an intensification of violence on "foreign interference" in the conflict.

"I am gravely worried by the expansion of artillery fire northwards into the city," he said. "Over the past days, the number of civilians killed and injured has been rising and many families are leaving the areas impacted by the shelling." The LNA is the largest and best organized of the country's many militias, and has the support of Egypt, the United Arab Emirates and Russia. The Tripoli-allied militias, on the other side, are aided by Turkey and Qatar. Salame warned of "disastrous humanitarian consequences" if fighting and shelling around the capital continues.

The U.N. Mission in Libya estimates the total number of drone strikes supporting Hifter's LNA since the beginning of the conflict at "well above 800" and the number supporting the government "at around 240," Salame said.

Libya has been divided into rival governments, with Tripoli controlling parts of the country's west, and a rival government in the east aligned with Hifter's force. Each side is backed by an array of militias and armed groups fighting over resources and territory.

East Libyan authorities said on Sunday a Libyan Airlines aircraft had been seized by officials at the airport in the western city of Misrata. The Tripoli government controls the airport, and militias seen as its political allies occupy the city.

Belarus election results: An opposition-free parliament

By YURAS KARMANAU **Associated Press**

MINSK, Belarus (AP) — Full preliminary results from parliamentary elections in Belarus show the chamber will have no members of the opposition to challenge strongman President Alexander Lukashenko.

Results released by the national elections commission on Monday show all the parliament's 110 seats won by former government functionaries, diplomats and members of pro-government parties.

Election observers and government opponents questioned the poll's integrity.



Belarusian President Alexander Lukashenko speaks to the media after voting at a polling station during parliamentary elections, in Minsk, Belarus, Sunday, Nov. 17, 2019.

Associated Press

Observers from the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe said Monday that "fundamental freedoms were disregarded and the integrity of the election process was not adequately safeguarded."

A statement from the OSCE running again. many opposition candidates, limited opportunity for public campaigning and shortcomings during vote counting.

"These elections have demonstrated an overall lack of respect for democratic commitments," an observer team leader, Margaret Cederfeldt, said in the statement.

The outgoing parliament in the former Soviet republic had two opposition deputies. But they and many other opposition candidates were blocked from

team cited concerns in- Belarusian opposition figcluding the exclusion of ures had said early voting was a particular concern, because the ballot boxes are not guarded. One independent observer reported filming a woman stuffing a box with ballots, but the incident was brushed off by the elections commission head.

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North Korea says it won't give Trump a summit for free

BV KIM TONG-HYUNG Associated Press

SEOUL, South Korea (AP)

 North Korea on Monday responded to a tweet by U.S. President Donald Trump that hinted at another summit with North Korean leader Kim Jong Un, saying it has no interest in giving Trump further meetings to brag about unless it gets something substantial in return. The statement by Foreign Ministry adviser Kim Kye Gwan is the latest call by North Korea for U.S. concessions ahead of an endof-year deadline set by Kim Jong Un for the Trump administration to offer mutually acceptable terms for a deal to salvage nuclear diplomacy.

Following a U.S. decision over the weekend to call off joint military exercises with South Korea to create space for diplomacy with the North, Trump in a tweet urged Kim Jong Un to "act quickly, get the deal done" and hinted at another summit between them, saying "See you soon!"

But Kim Kye Gwan reiterated his government's stance that Washington must discard what North



In this undated photo provided on Monday, Nov. 18, 2019, by the North Korean government, North Korean leader Kim Jong Un, center, poses with North Korean air force sharpshooters and soldiers for a photo at an unknown location in North Korea.

Korea sees as "hostile" policies to keep the negotiations alive.

"Three rounds of DPRK-U.S. summit meetings and talks were held since June last year, but no particular improvement has been achieved in the DPRK-U.S. relations ... the U.S. only seeks to earn time, pretending it has made progress in settling the issue of the Korean Peninsula," he said in a statement carried by the official Korean Central News Agency, referring to North Korea by the initials of its formal name, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

"We are no longer interested in such talks that bring nothing to us. As we have got nothing in return, we will no longer gift the U.S. **Associated Press**

president with something he can boast of, but aet compensation for the successes that President Trump is proud of as his administrative achievements."

Kim Kye Gwan is a veteran diplomat who led the North Korean delegation at much of the now-dormant six-nation nuclear disarmament talks held in Beijing in 2003-2008. His statement came hours after KCNA reported that Kim Jong Un supervised a parachuting drill by military sharpshooters and vowed to build an "invincible army," displaying more defiance despite the decision by the U.S. and South Korea to shelve their drills. It was North Korea's second publicized military drill in three days. A report Saturday said Kim urged combat pilots to prepare against enemies "armed to the teeth" while attending a flight demonstration.

North Korea has been ramping up missile tests and other military demonstrations in recent months in an apparent pressure tactic over the talks.

Negotiations have faltered since a February summit between Kim and Trump in Vietnam which broke down after the U.S. rejected North Korean demands for broad sanctions relief in exchange for a partial surrender of its nuclear capabilities.

Kim later issued his end-ofyear deadline and has also said the North would seek a "new path" if the United States persists with sanctions and pressure.

Avalanche hits Indian army post in Himalayas, 6 killed

BV AIJAZ HUSSAIN Associated Press

SRINAGAR, India (AP) — An avalanche hit an Indian army post Monday on a Himalayan glacier in the disputed Kashmir region, killing four soldiers and their two civilian porters, the army said. The avalanche happened at height of more than 5,485 meters (17,995 feet) in the northern part of the Siachen Glacier. Rescuers pulled six soldiers and two porters from the snow, said army spokesman Lt. Col. Abhinav Navneet.

They were taken by helicopter to a military hospital, where the four soldiers The two countries have and the two porters died, Navneet said. The surviving two soldiers were undergoing treatment, he said.

The group was on patrol been intermittent skirmishes near the post when the area was hit by the avalanche, Navneet said. The post was also hit by the avalanche but there were no reports of injuries there.

The glacier is on the northern tip of the divided Kashmir region claimed by India and Pakistan in an area

known as the world's highest battlefield.

troops deployed there since 1984 at elevations of up to 6,700 meters (21,982 feet). There have since then, but more soldiers have died from harsh weather than from combat. In 2017, at least 20 Indian soldiers were killed in three avalanches. In 2012, an avalanche in Pakistancontrolled Kashmir killed 140 people, including 129 Pakistani soldiers.



In this July 19, 2011 file photo, Indian army soldiers undergo a training session at the Siachen base camp, in Indian Kashmir on the border with Pakistan.

Associated Press



Venezuelan opposition struggling for momentum against Maduro

By SCOTT SMITH **JORGE RUEDA Associated Press**

CARACAS, Venezuela (AP) Opposition leader Juan Guaidó is struggling to draw protesters into Venezuela's streets just days after calling for daily demonstrations to drive President Nicolás Maduro from power, trying to reignite a movement he started early this year.

Only several dozen people answered Guaidó's call in Caracas on Monday, some scuffling with security forces. That fell far short of what the opposition had hoped to achieve, after Guaidó at a large demonstration Saturday appealed for sustained protests against the government.

Office worker Ofelia Briceño said she was done marching until the opposition gets organized and can present a clear approach to lure the military away from Maduro.

A passing group of marchers failed to persuade Briceño and her co-workers to abandon lunch plans and join them in the street. "It's crazy that they ask people to come out, but there's no plan. Everything is so haphazard," Briceño

"I've gone out marching many times before — but no more."



Opposition politician Juan Guaido raises his right fist as he greets supporters at a rally, in Caracas, Venezuela, Saturday, Nov. 16, 2019.

Associated Press

will try approaching Fuerte Tiuna, the nation's most important military base and seat of the defense ministry. School teacher Yldemar Acevedo was among one small but vocal group of protesters in Caracas on Monday who answered Guaidó's call and clashed national police dressed in riot gear.

The police shoved protesters with their shields and struck them with their hands, but Acevedo said she would not quit, no matter the personal cost.

"We're not backing down from our protests," she said, adding that the events in Bolivia emboldened her. "The only way they will understand that we have any power is for us to come out into the streets."

Diego Moya-Ocampos, principal Venezuela analyst with the London-based consulting firm IHS Markit, said Morales' ouster in Bolivia may serve as a source of inspiration.

But Venezuela's opposition also confronts Maduro's "military regime," known to use heavy-handed tactics that include arbitrary arrests and torture.

These are effective tools used by the military and national police to increasing degrees to match protests, deterring shows of resistance, Moya-Ocampo said.

Maduro defends the strong response to protests, saying Guaidó is a puppet of the White House bent on toppling him to exploit the nation's vast oil reserves.

"It's very difficult to maintain momentum when you're facina such a strong security apparatus," Moya-Ocampos said. "They're willing to use force against protesters and willing to treat an unarmed population as an enemy combatant."

Guaidó rose to lead the opposition in January and later claimed presidential powers under the constitution alleging Maduro's reelection was illegitimate. He vowed to oust the socialist president and hold new elections.

The opposition leader won the backing of the United States and more than other 50 nations that contend Maduro won a second term in 2018 through fraudulent elections.

Guaidó initially drew huge crowds when he declared when university students

himself interim president. Many thought change was imminent, but Maduro has kept power — primarily with backing with might from the military.

In a speech Saturday, Guaidó called for persistent protests, pointing to Bolivia where 18 days of upheaval prompted the resignation of Maduro ally Evo Morales, who fled to self-exile in Mexico.

The opposition has at least three marches planned this week, including Thursday

Nicaragua files weapons charges against opposition activists

By GABRIELA SELSER **Associated Press**

MANAGUA, Nicaragua (AP) — Sixteen Nicaraguan opposition activists, including 13 social leaders who were arrested as they tried to deliver water to hunger strikers protesting the incarceration of relatives they say are political prisoners, were charged Monday with allegedly transporting weapons.

The charges, which carry a minimum sentence of five years in prison, are based on a police report saying confiscated authorities handguns, a shotgun and gasoline bombs.

Police presented the detainees before government media, handcuffed, wearing prison uniforms released by authorities.



Father Edwin Roman attempts to convince the police to allow relatives of imprisoned and dead anti-government demonstrators to enter the San Miguel Arcangel Church in Masaya, Nicaragua, Thursday, Nov. 14, 2019.

and guarded by masked Police also showed the officers. They smiled but did weapons allegedly seized not speak in video images from those arrested. Rela-

tives, opposition leaders

Associated Press

and journalists massed outside the court but were not allowed in to witness the proceedings.

Among those arrested is Amaya Coppens, a Nicaraguan-Belgian dual citizen who was imprisoned for nearly a year for taking part in protests last year against the government of President Daniel Ortega.

Defense attorney María Oviedo said the judge on the case is the same one who found Coppens and numerous other protesters guilty of "terrorism" last

The 13 were detained Thursday in Masaya when they tried to reach the 11 women on hunger strike at the San Miguel church, where power and water had been cut off and which remains surrounded by police. The women are mothers, wives and sisters of jailed government opponents and the protest aims to push for their release.

In a statement, police argued the arrested activists had intended to "continue carrying out terrorist acts ... against police buildings, city halls and monuments to heroes and martyrs" of Ortega's Sandinista movement.

Opposition leaders say more than 138 protesters are behind bars for reasons they consider political, though about 700 were released earlier this year and Ortega's government has denied holding any prisoners of conscience.



LOCAL







Hilton's Blue Energy Committee sponsored the 2019 Meal Packaging Event

PALM BEACH —Fundacion pa Nos Comunidad (FPNC) which is Aruba's official Food Bank, held it second Meal Packing Event which took place at the Hilton Aruba Caribbean Resort & Casino. The space was filled with tables and teams of volunteers empowered to become heroes of the community.

The project titled "Connect to Impact" had as goal to prepare 50.000 meal packages in one day. These 50.000 meals will be distributed during the coming year to families in need that are registered at the foundation. Each package feeds up to 4 people. This year, the foundation added different types of products such as; Spanish rice, mac &cheese, oatmeal, rice and beans and a few more.

"This packaging project is very important. It contributes to the fight to end hunger on our island and at the same time promotes the foundations goal of offering healthy and nutritious food to local families in need." says director Ginaika van der Biezen.

This year's community event was attended by teams of various local companies. In order to participate the companies had to buy a table at the event, form a group of 10 members and donate a sum of 1500 florins to the foundation. In exchange the groups received all products and materials necessary. FPNC divided the work into 4 hours shifts of 4 hours each. Their goal was reached: 50.000 boxes packed and ready to be distributed throughout the



year.

FPNC is the official Food Bank of Aruba. Their goal is to prevent and fight hunger, social exclusion and promote care and wellbeing to the persons in need on our island. The food bank has been helping families in need since 2009. They are rely on donations made by individuals and organizations.

The Blue Energy Committee of the Hilton Aruba Caribbean Resort &Casino, which assists with different social activities felt that the FPNC foundation mission complies with the company's philosophy of more than 100-years of giving back to the community to insure sustainable growth for everyone.













Article by Etnia Nativa

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Small Aruban Industries of the 19th century

EpisodeXLIV

Small industries tried in Aruba such as the tobacco, cotton and wool industry did not achieve an appreciable success.



However peanut-growing, imported from Curacao from Aruba by the Dutch West India Company grew into an important industry. In the nineteenth century the main harvest always took place at an earlier date than on Curacao. The difference in soil and the knowledge of the natives made Aruba for a long time the peanut island. At Noord and near Cero Cristal and Hooiberg in particular peanut-growing was a favored means of existence.

For the growing of cotton, even with the support of the government, which offered the head of every family the lease for an indefinite period of 2 1/2 acres of soil, to be extended to ten acres on request, was of no avail.

In 1866 the administration made an attempt at stimulating the growing of cashew trees in connection with the rise in gum-prices, but this endeavor, too, proved unsuccessful.

Throughout the nineteenth century maize growing developed in proportion as the population increased and according as rains favored the success of the crops. This in a manner became traditional, work went on two plots: a piece of rich clay soil and a meagre sand-plot. If because of an abundance of rain the crop from the rich soil was disappointing, this loss was made good by the crop from the sandy plot, and inversely.

Different grades of maize from abroad, such as Jerusalem Corn, Yellow Millow Corn, etc., have been tried here. In the long run a type of corn, originally from China, known as sorghum substituted the native Aruban

maize. This was called maishi rabo or maishi di siete, produced best results. It is called seven weeks' maize because when the water is favorable it can be harvested within seven weeks of having been planted.

The priests acted as distributors of the seeded plants. In 1911, when Aruba did not yet knew of imported canned of food, many worries of the Arubans about their maize crops. In most cases the crops are exposed to many dangers which cause them to partly or completely miscarry. When the seed needs a long time to develop owing to lack of rain, it dies underground, or is devoured by earth-worms or ants.

When the plant has risen to a certain height, maybe one or two feet, there is a possibility that, owing to a prolonged drought or too much humidity, a liquid is formed inside the plant, a sort of oil turning from bright yellow into black and becoming as thick as molasses. This pest named maba, greatly injures the plant, hampering or paralyzing its vegetative force. As this liquid arises from a long drought or too much humidity it is washed off the plant by heavy rains or dried out by the fierce sun or hard wind.

Cultivation methods were more advanced on Aruba than at other places. Maize-harvests very rarely completely failed, and more often than not two harvests could be gathered in. Besides maize, beans were also grown in the agricultural season.

Continued on Page 15





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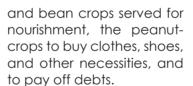
Small Aruban Industries of the 19th century

Continued from Page 14

There are numbers of different native kinds, as for instance: Janchikok, Jaes prinses, karanxu, bonofees, marins, yenye, wowo-preto, bonchi corra, wandu,

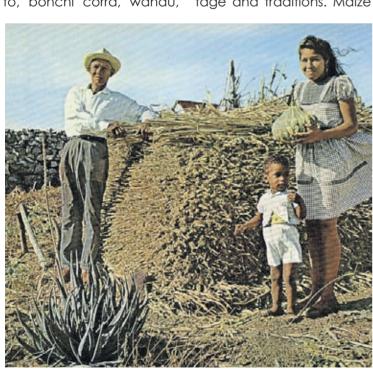
bochi shinishi, etc. It is odd that on neither of the other islands, Curacao or Bonaire, is bean-growing so productive and varied as on Aruba and mainly attributed to the Native American heritage and traditions. Maize

The work did not proceed without plan, it was given serious thought beforehand how the cunucu could best be divided into lots suitable for planting the various species. Everything was duly weighed: this soil is good for maize, the low lot carries off the water well and should be planted with pindas, the corner there is

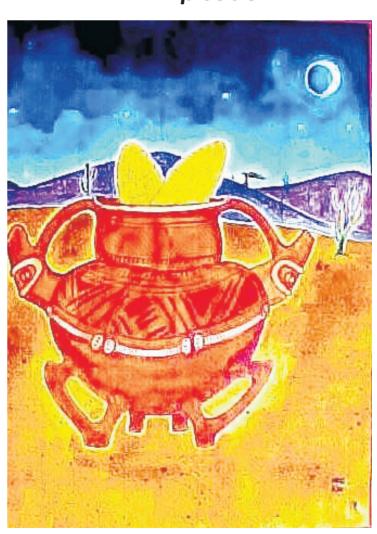


for beans, etc. However, no too optimistic view should be taken of Aruban agricultures. In 1827 commander Simon Plats reported "the condition of the holdings planted by the residents is still the same as twenty five years ago." Real plantations, with the exception of Fontein, did not exist.

EpisodeXLIV



5-Native Family harvest of maish rabo, plantation in Noord, Aruba



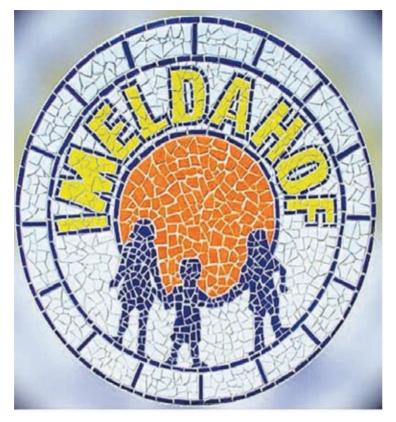
4-"Maish" native Aruban corn "Zae mays" art by Etnia Nativa



16th Annual Breakfast Walk of Imeldahof Children Home

NOORD — Imeldahof Children Home Foundation will be celebrating their 65th anniversary and will kick off the celebration with the annual breakfast walk. This will take place on Sunday November 24th at 6AM.

Imeldahof is a children home for children ages 7 till 15. The objective of the children home is to offer a temporary home and guidance for children who, for a variety of reasons, are unable to remain in their own homes. In most cases this is until placement with their own family or relatives or a foster family can be found. The Children Home first opened its doors on November 25, 1954 with



the effort of the Roman Catholic Sisters of Bethani and was managed by the Bethani Dutch Antilles Foundation. In 1976, the organization altered itself whereat Children Home Imeldahof Aruba (Stichting Kinderhuis Imeldahof Aruba) was founded as a private foundation, subsidized by the government. The subsidization concerns the salaries of the personnel and to cover expenses per child. These expenses include provisions, attire, school material/fixed costs, activities, and all other expenses to manage the foundation. Furthermore, the organization is dependent on the community for financial and voluntary

support in order to provide special activities or projects for the children.

In order to get funds for their activities Imeldahof will be holding the 16th edition of the well-known breakfast walk. It's a 5km walk for the whole family. It starts at 6AM at Imeldahof in Noord, where you can enjoy the beauty of the sunrise while spending quality time with the family. All participants will receive a t-shirt and also a snack box at the end of the walk. To register for the walk please send an email to meldahofaruba@setar.aw or whatsapp at 593-7814 or contact the office at 587-6085.

Alpitour choose Aruba for their International Conference: More than 160 travel agencies of Italy visited our island



ORANJESTAD — Recently, our island welcomed a big group from Italy who choose Aruba as host for their international conference.

Alpitour is a well-known travel organization in Italy with various companies under their leadership. Turisanda is one of them consisting of 'upscale' travel agencies. The conference was named "An Unmistakable Future"- Turisanda conference goes to Aruba".

Alpitour choose our destination due to different reasons but what stood out was the safety of our island, the ideal weather and the variety of accommodation our island has to offer

During their 7 day stay the participants were able to enjoy the beauty of our island thru excursions, events and site inspections at several accomodations. Aruba Tourism Authority would like to thank each and every one that made this conference a complete success.

The Stewart's love coming to the island



EAGLE BEACH — Marouska Heyliger of the Aruba Tourism Authority had the pleasure to honor a lovely couple as Goodwill Ambassadors. Julie and Tom Stewart from New Jersey were recently honored as Goodwill Ambassadors. They have been visiting the island for 22 consecutive times. The Stewart's love coming to the island for the great people, adventure, family time and beautiful beaches.

Heyliger conducted the ceremony which was held at the Divi Village Resort. The honorees received some presents and had been thanked for choosing Aruba as their vacation destination for so many years.



SPORTS





Steven Holcomb's Olympic legacy to grow, for a final time

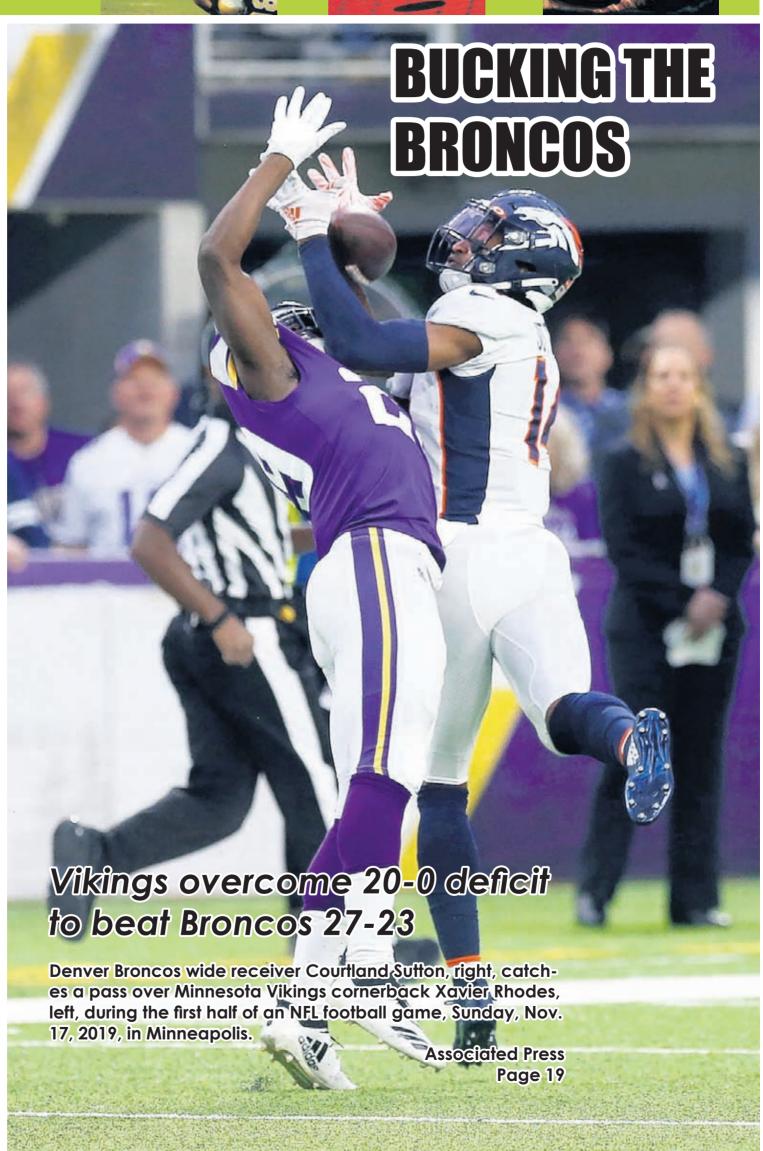
By TIM REYNOLDS AP Sports Writer

U.S. bobsledder Steven Holcomb is getting one last victory celebration. A long overdue one.

More than 2 1/2 years after his death — and almost six years removed from the bobsled races in question — Holcomb and his team are about to finally be presented the silver medals that they should have received at the 2014 Sochi Olympics. Holcomb and teammates Steven Langton, Chris Fogt and Curt Tomasevicz were originally awarded bronze medals, which were eventually upgraded after a long probe of the Russian doping scandal that now overshadows those games.

The medal reallocation will take place at the Team USA Awards in Los Angeles. Langton, Fogt and Tomasevicz are all expected to attend, as is longtime U.S. bobsled coach Brian Shimer and other top American sliding officials. Holcomb, who was 37 when he died in his sleep at the Olympic Training Center in Lake Placid, New York in May 2017, will be represented by his family. "I think the word that comes to mind most quickly is bittersweet," said Jean Schaefer, Holcomb's mother. "It's certainly a great honor for Steven and I'm so very, very proud of him — as I have been so very proud of him his whole life. But there's also a great sadness that he's not here to enjoy the fruits of his efforts and to celebrate with his team."

Continued on Page 18



T#DAY

Steven Holcomb's

Continued from Page 17

It took years to get to this point: Russia, which won the two- and four-man bobsled races at the 2014 Games on its home ice, was stripped of those titles in November 2017 after the long investigation into the state-sponsored dopina program at that Olympics. But it took the International Olympic Committee until this past March to formally reallocate the medals. Latvia was upgraded to gold in four-man, with Britain moving up to bronze. In two-man, Switzerland eventually was elevated to gold, with Latvia up to bronze.

The U.S., which left Sochi with bronzes from both races, is now recognized as the silver medalist in both. Holcomb and Langton were in the two-man sled; Holcomb drove Langton, Fogt and Tomasevicz in the four-man race.

"Holcomb made such an impact on so many people's lives," said Kaillie Humphries, the longtime Canadian bobsledder and two-time Olympic women's champion who is now competing for the U.S. "He was the best."

Holcomb, who had prescription sleeping pills and alcohol in his system on the night that he died and was so depressed by failing eyesight in 2007 that he attempted suicide, was by far the best bobsledder in the U.S. program — perhaps ever. He was a winner of at least 60 World Cup medals, more than a dozen World Cup championship trophies and the various awards from his career are scattered about the homes of his relatives.

His mother's intention for the silver medals is that they be donated to the U.S. Olympic and Paralympic Committee archives. The USOPC was in possession of Holcomb's bronze medals, as a gift from his family, when they had to be surrendered to the IOC in order to receive the new silvers.

"Steven once told me that his medals weren't just medals for him or his team," Schaefer said. "They were medals for his country. They represented America and



In this Feb. 23, 2014 file photo, the driver of United States USA-1, Steven Holcomb, acknowledges the crowd after the team won the bronze medal during the men's four-man bobsled competition final at the 2014 Winter Olympics in Krasnaya Polyana, Russia.

he was very proud of that and I think he would be very proud to know that his medals reside where people can see them and enjoy them."

Holcomb would have been a lock for the 2018 U.S. Olympic Team as well, where he could have added to his medal haul — he drove the U.S. to gold in the four-man race at the 2010

Vancouver Games, ending a 62-year drought for the Americans in bobsledding's signature race.

His mother went to Pyeongchang last year instead, representing her son and his memory. The grieving process is not over, though Tuesday's event is certain to bring back happy thoughts as well.

"I'm as OK as I can be,"

Associated Press

Schaefer said. "I don't know if a parent ever gets over the loss of a child, because it's certainly not the natural order of things.

And I have to say that the support of his teammates and the Olympic family is incredible. Just incredible. You feel the love all the time."

She will feel it again Tuesday, one more time.

Browns' Garrett has suspension appeal set for Wednesday

By TOM WITHERS AP Sports Writer

BEREA, **Ohio (AP)** — Browns star defensive end Myles Garrett will make his case to the NFL to have his indefinite suspension reduced on Wednesday.

Garrett was banned indefinitely by the league on Friday for striking Pittsburgh quarterback Mason Rudolph with a helmet during the closing seconds of Cleveland's 21-7 victory.

Garrett requested to attend the appeal hearing in New York and plans to be there. His request will be heard by former NFL player James Thrash. He and Pro Football Hall of Famer Derrick Brooks are jointly appointed by the league and the Players Association to hear such appeals.

Browns defensive tackle Larry Ogunjobi is having his one-game ban heard Monday. Ogunjobi was suspended for shoving Ru-



Cleveland Browns defensive end Myles Garrett (95) hits Pittsburgh Steelers quarterback Mason Rudolph (2) with a helmet during the second half of an NFL football game Thursday, Nov. 14, 2019, in Cleveland.

dolph to the ground, escalating a wild brawl between the AFC North rivals that began with Garrett ripping off the QB's helmet, wildly swinging it and connecting with the top of his head. Rudolph was not

seriously injured. Steelers center Maurkice Pouncey will have his appeal hearing Tuesday. He was suspended three games after he came to Rudolph's defense and punched and kicked Garrett while

Associated Press the defensive end lay under a pile of players in the

end zone. Garrett was suspended Friday — less than 12 hours after his violent actions — for at least the last six regular-season games and the playoffs should

Cleveland (4-6) get there. It's the longest suspension in league history for a single on-field infraction. The 2017 No. 1 overall draft pick and Pro Bowler is not permitted to be with the Browns while serving his suspension. As part of his punishment, he's also required to meet with Commissioner Roger Goodell's office before he can be reinstated.

Garrett doesn't seem to have a strong case for getting his suspension reduced. The league ruled he used Rudolph's helmet "as a weapon" and his alarming conduct in a nationally televised game was universally condemned by fans and former players. The league is also expected this week to announce fines for players who left the Cleveland and Pittsburgh sidelines during the melee.

The Browns and Steelers play again in Pittsburgh on Dec. 1.□



SPORTS A19 TUESDAY 19 NOVEMBER 2019



Vikings overcome 20-0 deficit to stun Broncos; Ravens roll

By The Associated Press MINNEAPOLIS (AP) — The

Minnesota Vikings erased a 20-0 halftime deficit with touchdowns on each of their four drives in the second half, fending off the Denver Broncos by forcing three straight incomplete passes in the end zone over the final 10 seconds to preserve a 27-23 victory on Sunday.

This was the first time in five years — a span of 100 games including the playoffs — that an NFL team won after trailing by 20 or more points after two quarters. Kirk Cousins went 29 for 35 for 319 yards and three scores for the Vikings (8-3), overcoming a system-wide failure in the first half that included a lost fumble of his during a sack that led to one of three field goals by Brandon McManus for the Broncos (3-7).

Cousins hit Stefon Diggs for a 54-yard touchdown pass that brought the crowd noise to a deafening level and cut the lead to 23-20. McManus went wide right from 41 yards on his fourth attempt, and Cousins found Kyle Rudolph wide open for a 32-yard score on the next possession with 6:10 left. Both of those throws by Cousins came off bootleg rollouts to his left, the type of passing play he has long thrived on.

Brandon Allen, the fill-in quarterback after the injury to Joe Flacco and the impending debut of rookie Drew Lock, admirably drove the Broncos to the included three fourth-down conversions.

With first-and-goal from the 4, but only 10 seconds and no timeouts remaining, Allen had three chances at the winner. Trae Waynes knocked down the first one,



Minnesota Vikings tight end Irv Smith (84) catches a 10yard touchdown pass ahead of Denver Broncos cornerback Davontae Harris, right, during the second half of an NFL football game, Sunday, Nov. 17, 2019, in Minneapolis.

Jayron Kearse had a hand on the second one and the last try for Noah Fant sailed past the rookie tight end after he and Kearse tussled

for position. **RAVENS 41, TEXANS 7**

BALTIMORE (AP) — Lamar Jackson threw four touchdown passes, ran for 86 yards and helped Baltimore roll to its sixth straight victory, over Houston.

The game was billed as a matchup between firstplace AFC teams and two of the best double-threat quarterbacks in the NFL.

Jackson and the Baltimore defense made it a one-sided affair, and the Ravens (8-2) are riding their longest winning streak since a seven-game run in 2000, their first Super Bowl season.

After throwing three touchdown passes to put Baltimore up 21-0 in the third quarter, Jackson followed with his most impressive play of the day: a 39-yard cusp of a comeback of run in which he broke six their own with a drive that tackles, weaving through the Houston secondary as if playing keep-away with the football.

> Deshaun Watson, on the other hand, spent the entire afternoon running from a defense that utilized a Patriots 26 with just under a variety of blitzes and cov- minute left.

erages. Baltimore rang up seven sacks — six against Watson — forced two turnovers and limited the nimble-footed quarterback to 12 yards rushing on three carries. Watson went 18 for 29 for 169 yards with a lost fumble and an interception for the Texans (6-4). Houston fell behind 34-0 before Carlos Hyde ran for a 41yard touchdown with 7:10 remaining.

Associated Press

PATRIOTS 17, EAGLES 10 PHILADELPHIA (AP) — JUlian Edelman threw a goahead 15-yard touchdown pass to Phillip Dorsett and New England rallied for a victory over Philadelphia. Tom Brady threw for 216

yards, leading New England (9-1) back from a 10-0 deficit, but it was Edelman, the Patriots' wide receiver, who found a target in the end zone. The Pats defense sacked Carson Wentz five times and forced one turnover.

Wentz couldn't get much going without his two best receivers and top running back sidelined by injuries. Nelson Agholor couldn't make a twisting catch on Wentz's fourth-down heave into the end zone from the

The Eagles (5-5) got the ball back and advanced to their 42 but Wentz's desperation pass fell incomplete. This was nothing like the thrilling matchup between the two teams in Super Bowl 52. Nick Foles led the Eagles to a 41-33 victory over the Patriots to capture the franchise's first NFL title since 1960. The teams set or tied 29 Super Bowl records,

49ERS 36, CARDINALS 26 SANTA CLARA, Calif. (AP) —

including most yards in any

game (1,151) in league his-

Jimmy Garoppolo threw a 25-yard touchdown pass to Jeff Wilson Jr. with 31 seconds left for his fourth TD pass of the game and San Francisco rallied for a victory over Arizona.

Instead of being ruled short and having to decide whether to kick a tying field goal or go for it on fourth down, San Francisco had a new set of downs and took advantage on Wilson's first career touchdown catch. David Johnson fumbled on the next play for the Cardinals (3-7-1), who squandered a 16-0 lead and lost their fourth straight game. San Francisco added a fumble recovery for a touchdown by D.J. Reed on the final play after a botched lateral by Arizona. This marked the biggest deficit erased by the 49ers in a win since rallying from 20 points down to beat Philadelphia on Oct. 2, 2011. San Francisco also over-

came a 17-point deficit in the NFC title game at Atlanta following the 2012 season.Garoppolo threw for 425 yards and four touchdowns, but also threw two interceptions deep in Arizona territory that nearly doomed the 49ers.

The first set up a field goal that put Arizona up 19-17 and the second came with San Francisco trailing by three late in the fourth quarter.

RAMS 17, BEARS 7

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Todd Gurley and Malcolm Brown ran for touchdowns and Los Angeles was able to ground out a victory over Chicago. Gurley tied a season high with 97 yards on 25 carries, scoring on a 1-yard carry up the middle with 3:28 remaining in the first half to extend Los Angeles' lead to 10-0.

After Tarik Cohen's thirdquarter touchdown catch brought Chicago to 10-7, the Rams (6-4) put it out of reach with 3:35 remaining in the fourth quarter on Brown's 5-yard run.

The Bears (4-6) ran 22 more plays than the Rams but averaged only 3.6 yards. Mitchell Trubisky was 24 of 43 for 190 yards with a touchdown and interception. Chase Daniel replaced Trubisky for the final series.

SAINTS 34, BUCCANEERS 17 TAMPA, Fla. (AP) — Drew Brees threw for 228 yards and three touchdowns to lead New Orleans over Tampa Bay.

The NFC South leaders (8-2) rebounded from a 26-9 loss to struggling Atlanta, with NFL receptions leader Michael Thomas becoming the first player in league history with 90-plus catches in the first 10 games of a season and Brees tossing TD passes of 16 yards to Thomas, 3 yards to Jared Cook and 6 yards to Ted Ginn Jr. after being held out of the end zone by the Falcons. Safety Marcus Williams put an exclamation point on a strong defensive performance, returning the third of New Orleans' four interceptions 55 yards for a touchdown that put the Saints up 34-17 with just over five minutes remaining.



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Kings snap Celtics' 10-game winning streak

By The Associated Press SACRAMENTO, Calif. (AP)

 Buddy Hield scored a season-high 35 points, Richaun Holmes hit two free throws with seconds remaining to give Sacramento the lead, and the Kings snapped the Boston Celtics' 10-game winning streak with a 100-99 victory Sunday.

Marcus Smart had a chance to win it for Boston, but his runner in the lane hung on the rim before trickling off as the buzzer sounded.

Harrison Barnes added 13 points and Bogdan Bogdanovic had 12 points and 10 assists for the Kings. Jaylen Brown scored 18 points and Kemba Walker had 15 for Boston. Jayson Tatum and Daniel Theis each added 14. The Celtics lost for the first time since their Oct. 23 opener at Philadelphia.

LAKERS 122, HAWKS 101 LOS ANGELES (AP) —



Sacramento Kings forward Richaun Holmes, left, goes to the basket against Boston Celtics center Robert Williams III during the first half of an NBA basketball game in Sunday, Nov. 17, 2019. **Associated Press**

of his 33 points during a James' and handed Atlanta its second ugly loss in 24 hours at Staples Center.

Kobe Bryant watched from courtside as his former team used suffocating defense to fuel an outburst that gave it a 34-9 lead. LeBron James scored 12 In a quarter full of highlights,

biggest breathtaking opening nine provided his first points. minutes for the Lakers, who After JaVale McGee raced to a 25-point lead blocked Jabari Parker's shot, James grabbed the ball, passed to Danny Green and took the return pass for a slam dunk that brought the crowd to its feet two minutes in.

Trae Young scored 31 for the Hawks, who were routed 150-101 on Saturday

night by the Clippers. NUGGETS 131, GRIZZLIES 114

MEMPHIS, Tenn. (AP) -Jamal Murray rebounded from a poor shooting night with a season-best 39 points in Denver's victory over Memphis.

Paul Millsap had 23 points and Juancho Hernangomez finished with 15 to help Denver win for the sixth time in seven aames. Jaren Jackson Jr. led Memphis with 22 points, hitting a career-high five 3-pointers.

MAGIC 125, WIZARDS 121 ORLANDO, Fla. (AP) — Nikola Vucevic had 30 points and 17 rebounds and Evan Fournier added 25 points and nine assists to help Orlando hold off Washington.

Markelle Fultz scored 19 points and Terrance Ross added 15 in Orlando's fourth victory in five games. Bradley Beal had 34 points and eight assists for Washington. C.J. Miles had

21 points, and Davis Bertans 15. The Wizards have lost four of their last five.

PELICANS 108, WARRIORS 100

NEW ORLEANS (AP) — J.J. Redick scored 26 points, hitting his sixth 3-pointer of the game from the left corner with 1:09 left, and New Orleans beat Golden State.

Jrue Holiday had 22 points despite a difficult night shooting and also had nine assists and eight rebounds. Eric Paschall scored 30 points for injury-depleted Golden State. The Warriors have lost seven in row to fall to an NBA-worst 2-12.

76ERS 114, CAVALIERS 95 CLEVELAND (AP) — Tobias Harris scored 27 points, Joel Embiid had 14 and Philadelphia Cleveland.

Collin Sexton had 17 points for Cleveland. The Cavaliers nearly pulled off an upset in Philadelphia on Tuesday night before falling 98-97.



Karlsson scores 2, Fleury and Vegas blanks Calgary, 6-0

By W.G. RAMIREZ **Associated Press**

LAS VEGAS (AP) — The Vegas Golden Knights can finally be proud of a third period. They went into their game against Calgary having held leads in six of their previous eight games and led by two in three of them. However, they've struggled to finish and were mired in a five-game losing streak. The Golden Knights left no doubt on Sunday.

William Karlsson had his third straight multipoint game, Marc-Andre Fleury stopped 34 shots to earn his league high-tying 10th victory this season and Vegas got four third-period goals to douse the Flames 6-0.

Fleury, who improved to 14-4-1 all-time against Calgary, got his fifth career shutout against the Flames and 58th all time, which moved him into a tie for 19th in NHL history with Jon Ross Roach.

"It's been a rough patch, everybody's getting all frustrated and sometimes confidence was so low going into the third (period), if we're behind (or) even if we're ahead teams would come back on us," said Fleury, who is one victory shy from 450 for his career. "We haven't been scoring as much lately, to see so many guys get goals tonight, it's good. It boosts everybody's confidence. Everybody feels a little better and it's gonna carry to the next game."

Karlsson, the only player to have appeared in each of

Vegas' 186 all-time regularseason games, had two goals and an assist. He now has 14 points (seven goals, seven assists) over the last 11 games and leads the team with 23 points.

"This is what we need, two huge points for us and now we just look forward," Karlsson said. "I think we executed very well, just overall a very good game."

Paul Stastny, Max Pacioretty, Mark Stone and Cody Eakin also scored for Vegas, while Nate Schmidt had four assists, a new career-high for the defenseman for points in a game.

Vegas, which is now 6-2-0 against opponents from the Pacific Division, also snapped a three-game home losing skid and improved to 2-4-3 in its last nine overall. "We really moved the puck well," Vegas coach Gerard Gallant said. "We're all about playing fast and speed and transition and I thought it was real good. It's good for our team, it's good for our confidence, now we just aotta continue to play that way." Calgary, which has never won inside T-Mobile Arena, dropped to 1-3-0 in the second game of a back-to-back this season after losing in Arizona on Saturday.

"I thought we battled through 40 (minutes), and had a tough one in the final 20," Calgary coach Bill Peters said. "It was a little deflating in that regard. It feels like it's just hard to get (the puck) to go in right



Vegas Golden Knights center William Karlsson scores on Calgary Flames goalie Cam Talbot (39) during the third period of an NHL hockey game, Sunday, Nov. 17, 2019, in Las Vegas. The Golden Knights defeated the Flames 6-0.

Associated Press

now." The Golden Knights got on the board midway through the first period when Karlsson skated in on an odd man rush with Max Pacioretty but kept the puck and fired it past Cam Talbot, who finished with 31 saves and dropped to 1-5-0 this season.

Stastny notched his 698th career point, when he gracefully deked around Mark Giordano and fired a wrist shot by Talbot midway through the second period, while Pacioretty seized momentum for the Golden Knights by making it 3-0 early in the third.

Eakin scored the most meaningful goal of the night, after struggling to find the back of the net through the first 21 games. Eakin capitalized took a pass from Jonathan Marchessault and flipped it past Talbot with a little more than five minutes left for his first goal of the season.

"It felt good," said Eakin, who now has 99 career aoals.

"I've been doing it long enough and bad stuff happens where you go through something like that you can just do what you do best. Sometimes when you go through a rut like that where you're not producing, things get a little tougher and you feel like you're skating in sand. It's nice to get that one."

Mark Stone snapped a sixgame scoreless drought with a one-timer from one knee over Talbot's stick to make it 5-0, and Karlsson's second goal of the game came on a backhand with 2:31 left in the contest.

BLACKHAWKS 4, SABRES 1 CHICAGO (AP) — Patrick Kane extended his goalscoring streak to six games, and Chicago got its fourth straight win.

Kirby Dach scored twice as the resurgent Blackhawks improved to 6-1-1 in their last eight games. Jonathan Toews added his fourth of the season, and Corey Crawford made 33 saves. Kane has eight goals and nine assists during a nine-

Jack Eichel scored his fifth goal in two days, but banged-up Buffalo lost for the seventh time in eight games. Carter Hutton had 23 saves.

game point streak.

The Sabres played without forward Kyle Okposo, who left the previous game with a possible head injury. Okposo accidentally collided with Ottawa defenseman Ron Hainsey after he got on the ice for a line change.

Little-used veteran goalie Cory Schneider waived by Devils

NEWARK, **N.J.** (**AP**) — Goal-Schneider had battled a tender Cory Schneider, a one-time All-Star and one of the main faces of the New Jersey Devils, was placed on waivers Monday. The Devils said on Twitter Monday the 33-year- had a goals-against avold veteran would be assigned to Binghamton of the AHL if not claimed. It seems unlikely a team would do so since it would inherit his \$6 million annual salary, which runs through the 2021-22 season. Also,

hip injury in recent years. He has an 0-4-1 record in six starts this season and has played only twice in the last 13 games. The Massachusetts native he erage of 4.59 and a .852 save percentage.

"The way the schedule comes now, we didn't see him getting into a lot of games in the next couple and go to Binghamton, it's of weeks," Devils coach not the end of the road for John Hynes said. "When us here," Hynes said.□

a player, particularly a goalie, if you're not going to have an opportunity to play, it's hard to get the game reps and confidence that you need." Schneider spent time at

Binghamton last season working on his game and played well late in the season. It has not carried over to this season.

"If he does clear waivers



In this Nov. 8, 2019, file photo, New Jersey Devils' goalie Cory Schneider (35) makes a save during the second period of an NHL hockey game against the New Jersey Devils on Friday, Nov. 8, 2019, in Edmonton, Alberta.

Associated Press





This 2019 photo provided by William Parmeter shows Fort Myers Miracle minor league baseball player Ryan Costello. **Associated Press**

Twins prospect Ryan Costello found dead in New Zealand hotel

WELLINGTON, New Zealand their statement, the Twins (AP) — Minnesota Twins prospect Ryan Costello was found dead in his family, friends, coaches New Zealand hotel room Monday, days after joining his team in the Australian Baseball League.

The 23-year-old third baseman died in his sleep, the Auckland Tuatara said. No cause was given.

Concerns were raised when Costello failed to report for practice Monday, days ahead of Tuatara's opener of the 2019-20 sea-

Costello was traded to Minnesota last year as part of a deal that sent Zach Duke to the Seattle Mariners.

Tuatara expressed "deepest condolences" to Costello's family and to the Twins organization.

The team added that Costello's teammates were "naturally devastated." In

extended "most sincere condolences" to Costello's and teammates.

Born in Hartford, Connecticut, Costello played minor league baseball for the Clinton Lumberjacks and later for the Fort Myers Miracle during their 2018 championship run.

In an interview with Twins Daily, an outlet dedicated to team news, Costello said in October 2018 that his greatest strength is "my ability to stay positive through tough times and understand that it's part of the game and ups and downs are going to come." He spoke of his desire to spend time with family after his first professional season in 2019.

"My dad has a bass boat and has had it since I was a kid," Costello said. 🔲





In this Saturday, Nov. 16, 2019 photo Minnesota Twins' Max Kepler, right, talks to young baseball players at an event at the Armin-Wolf-Arena in Regensburg, Germany.

Associated Press

Twins' Max Kepler retraces steps in trip back to Germany

BV CIARÁN FAHEY Associated Press

BERLIN (AP) — When Max Kepler makes an acrobatic catch for the Minnesota Twins, perhaps he owes a bit to his parents.

Back in his hometown of Berlin, the 26-year-old outfielder paid tribute to his parents, professional ballet dancers Kathy Kepler and Marek Rozycki.

"I used to sit in the wings and watch them perform," he said Monday during an interview with The Associated Press. "I was there with my sister, once, twice a month, watching them do their thing. So I think I subconsciously I learned a lot from just the way they go about themselves on a professional level."

Kepler is in Germany for a five-day Major League Baseball promotional tour. He reminisced about Little League ball in the German capital. He said his dad gave tips on preparation and recovery, his mom on motivation.

"They're my support team," he said. "They've pushed me through thick and thin, ups and downs. There have been a lot of times where I've doubted myself, just continuing to play baseball. They're the main factor for me still being in the game."

Kepler played for the Regensburg Legionnaires in the Bundesliga, Germany's highestlevel league, and signed a minor league contract with the Twins in 2009. He made his big league debut in 2015 and hit .252 last season, setting career highs with 36 homers, 90 RBIs and 98 runs.

After helping with a clinic for kids in Regensburg on Saturday, Kepler was back in Berlin to visit his old school, the John F. Kennedy School, for another kids' camp on Monday. "It's been amazing," he said. "Any time I get to see the kids that used to be me, back in the day, in their shoes, looking up to major league players, I can really relate. It really brings out a lot of emotions, and also memories from my past. We don't have much time, because we're jumping from city to city in five days, but that's my favorite part about it – just getting to relate to the kids."

Kepler wishes he had more time to spend with kids. After visits to Munich, Regensburg and Berlin, he heads to Frankfurt on Tuesday. Kepler hasn't had time to evaluate to the state of baseball in soccer-obsessed Germany.

"It's just going to take some time to really build that community here, like it always has, and keep them interested in the game and away from the sports that are overshadowing baseball," he said. "But that's why I'm here and I'm trying to make a small difference in the German baseball world."

Kepler played for several Berlin soccer teams including Lichterfelde, Hertha Zehlendorf, Berliner SC and even Hertha Berlin. He gave up soccer when he moved to Bavaria and concentrated on baseball.

"Soccer's cut-throat in this country, like baseball is in the U.S.," he said. "Kind of sad I dropped it at the time, but luckily it all paid off," Kepler said.



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Gibbs wins 5th NASCAR title in season dedicated to late son

By MARK LONG **AP Sports Writer** HOMESTEAD, Fla. (AP) —

Joe Gibbs won the first race, the last race and more than a dozen in between. His most dominating season in 28 years as a NASCAR team owner culminated with his fifth Cup Series championship.

This one had to be more special than the others.

Gibbs dedicated the season to his late son, J.D., who died in January after a long battle with a degenerative neurological disease. Joe Gibbs Racing responded with 19 victories in 36 races a record for NASCAR's modern era — and another title for the three-time Super Bowl-winning champion who still goes by Coach.

Kyle Busch put Coach atop the racing world Sunday by winning the season finale at Homestead-Miami Speedway. It was the second Cup championship in five years for Busch and Gibbs, who also won titles in 2000 (Dale Jarrett), 2002 (Tony Stewart) and 2005 (Stewart).

Gibbs felt like J.D. had a hand in making the latest one happen.

"I think he's definitely a part of this," Gibbs said. "I miss him so much. ... It's kind of hard to put in words. But it's been special and different, and it was great to finish it up the way we did tonight."

J.D. Gibbs was a part-time driver and over-the-wall crew member when he first started working for his famous father. He made 13 NASCAR national series starts between 1998 and 2002. He stepped away from JGR in 2015 after he was diagnosed with "conditions related to brain function."

to travel to was Busch's first the 2017 series champion Cup Series championship, back to pit road, Hamlin's 1972) for wins by the same professional life building our Gibbs was 49 and co-chairman at JGR when he died. Gibbs had three chances to win the title, with Busch, Denny Hamlin and Martin Truex Jr. locking up three of the four spots in the championship field. His former NFL team, the Wash-

Gibbs and his three drivers ond straight year. luck with a message on the

"To get here is so difficult," video boards before their Truex said. "To win seven a good thing. In the world

ington Redskins, wished ished second for the sec- lin said. "We won 19 races as an organization. That's the most in this era. That's



Team owner Joe Gibbs stands next to the championship trophy after his driver Kyle Busch won a NASCAR Cup Series auto racing season championship at Homestead-Miami Speedway in Homestead, Fla., Sunday, Nov. 17, 2019.

Associated Press

game against the New York Jets on Sunday.

Hamlin and Truex were widely considered the most likely title contenders to win it all for Gibbs. Hamlin won last week at Phoenix and had all the momentum, and Truex had a series-high seven victories in 2019.

But both of them had pitroad issues that proved costly.

Truex's crew mixed up the right- and left-side front tires on lap 120, causing The final race he was able steering issues and forcing crew put too large a piece of tape on the air opening to his engine, causing it to overheat and forcing him to make an unscheduled stop.

> Both of them fell a lap back.

> Truex recovered and fin-

races is so difficult. Successful, but at the same time disappointing."

Hamlin's error came later in the race. He dropped from third to 19th because of the stop with 46 laps remaining. He battled back, but didn't have enough time to make up for the error and finished 10th.

"Certainly we got a little aggressive there and it cost us," Hamlin said. "It just didn't work out."

It did for Gibbs, though.

The organization broke the modern-era record (since said. "J.D. spent his entire team in a single season. Hendrick Motorsports, with a lineup that featured Cup champions Jimmy Johnson, Jeff Gordon, Casey Mears and Busch, won 18 races and the championship (Johnson) in 2007.

"It's just a great year," Ham-

where we just keep getting more common with everything — common pit guns, common this, common that — JGR continues to set itself apart, and that's the people and the effort that they're putting in. I think that it really says a lot about the organization, no doubt."

JGR won the big one — the season-opening Daytona 500 with Hamlin — and the more-important finale with Busch.

"It's a thrill for us," Gibbs race team. This whole year I think is just a tribute to him. I think everybody saw the Daytona 500, everything that's happened this year. I know the Lord had his hand in what has taken place. I believe J.D. had a great view of it."

Robert Hight wins 3rd NHRA **Funny Car** season title

POMONA, Calif. (AP) —

Robert Hight raced to his third Funny Car season title and second in three years Sunday by advancing to the final round of the season-ending Auto Club NHRA Finals.

Steve Torrence won his second straight Top Fuel title, Erica Enders took her third Pro Stock crown, and Andrew Hines raced to his sixth Pro Stock Motorcycle championship.

Hight had a 3.977-second run at 324.59 mph in his Chevrolet Camaro to beat Matt Hagan in the semifinals to wrap up the title, then broke in the final against Jeck Beckman.

"The most important run of my life was in the semifinals," Hight said. "When it comes down to one run to win a championship, how will you perform? My heart was beating out of my chest, but we got it done. This has just been the steadiest year I've ever had and that's a real tribute to this team. It's amazing and I'm the luckiest guy in the world to drive this Funny Car."

Beckman earned his 30th Funny Car victory, winning in a Dodge SRT Hellcat.

Doug Kalitta won the Top Fuel race, Jeg Coughlin Jr. topped the Pro Stock lineup, and Jianna Salinas won in Pro Stock Motorcycle.

Kalitta raced to his 47th career victory, beating Richie Crampton with a 3.716 at 332.67. Coughlin topped Fernando Cuadra with a 6.558 at 210.54 in a Chevrolet Camaro for his 63rd victory.

Salinas capped her rookie season with her first victory. She beat Jerry Savoie, with a 7.464 at 180.81 on a Suzuki.



U.S. failing to stop China from stealing research, report says

By ERIC TUCKER **Associated Press**

WASHINGTON (AP) — The United States government has failed to stop China from stealing intellectual property from American universities and lacks a comprehensive strategy for dealing with the threat, a congressional report concluded Monday.

The report says the FBI should be more effective and consistent in warning universities about the threat of Chinese economic and industrial espionage at colleges and universities. It also asserts agencies that award research grants or provide visas for scientists don't do enough to monitor or track the recipients, and that universities themselves must do a better job identifying foreign funding sources and conflicts of interest among the scientists on their campuses.

The problem is especially urgent, says the report from the Senate's Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations, because billions of dollars in taxpayer-funded research have "contributed to China's global rise over the last 20 years" and to its goal of being a world leader in science and technology by 2050.

"As American policy makers navigate an increasingly complicated relationship with China, it is not in our national security interest to fund China's economic and military development with taxpayer dollars," the report says.

The report is the most recent government study to analyze Chinese intellectual property theft on college campuses and to scrutinize the shortcomings of the government agencies in addressing the problem. It focuses on Chinese programs that recruit scientists with access to cutting-edge technology in the U.S., incentivizing them to conduct research for Beijing's gain and even to steal the work of academics in America. In recent years, the report says, those programs have been exploited by scientists who have downloaded sensitive

ing to China, filed patents based on U.S. research,

research files before return- cies that distribute research ed research at colleges grants stop funding par- and universities — has takticipants in them absent full

en insufficient steps to vet



In this Tuesday, Feb. 26, 2019 file photo, a man holds the new Huawei Mate X foldable 5G smartphone during the Mobile World Congress wireless show, in Barcelona, Spain.

Associated Press

lied on grant applications or failed to disclose money they'd received from Chinese institutions.

"The U.S. academic community is in the crosshairs of not only foreign competitors contending for the best and brightest, but also of foreign nation states that seek to transfer valuable intellectual capital and steal intellectual property," the report states. "As the academic community looks to the federal government for guidance and direction on mitigating threats, the U.S. government must provide effective, useful, timely and specific threat information and tools to counter the threats."

The report takes aim at the lack of transparency in how the programs are run, recommending that agendisclosure of the terms and conditions of membership. The most prominent of the programs, known as the Thousand Talents Plan, has gone underground amid heightened U.S. scrutiny, with some Chinese government websites deleted online references to it. But it's continued operating, and participants are asked to sign legally binding contracts that include nondisclosure agreements and that make clear that Chinese institutions will maintain the rights to at least some of the intellectual property created by the researcher in the U.S.

The report singles out multiple agencies for criticism, saying for instance that the National Science Foundation — which funds about a quarter of all federally fundgrantees and avoid misappropriation of their funds. It cites as one example a Virginia Tech researcher who was accused of using NSF grants for research he knew had already been done in China.

In a statement Monday, the NSF said it is in the process of clarifying policy guidance for researchers on requirements to disclose foreign and domestic funding. It has also barred members of its workforce from participating in talent recruitment programs operated by certain countries, and has commissioned a study on how to "maintain balance between openness and security of science."

"This is a challenging and important issue," an NSF statement said.

The report says the Energy Department clarified only this year that employees and contractors are prohibited from participating in foreign talent recruitment programs, and that the State Department does not systematically track visa applicants linked to China's recruitment programs even though some applicants have stolen research in the past.

In addition, the report says the FBI "has yet to develop an effective, nationwide strategy to warn universities, government laboratories, and the broader public of the risks of foreign talent recruitment plans." It says FBI headquarters did not take centralized control of the bureau's response until the middle of last year, and that the FBI itself was slow to recognize the threat from talent recruitment plans.

The Associated Press last month, relying on hundreds of pages of documents obtained through public records requests, reported that the FBI has been reaching out to colleges and universities across the countries to warn them of the threat. But the report says universities are mixed in their response. In one case, according to the report, the FBI provided a school with a list of suspected participants in the Thousand Talents Plan but did not say what to do next.

An FBI spokeswoman declined to comment on the report ahead of a Senate hearing Tuesday on the same topic.

But FBI officials previously told AP that the bureau had received consistently positive feedback from universities about the outreach efforts, and that the FBI is committed to helping universities understand the scope of the threat and how to protect their research.

They said they consider the briefings vital because they say universities, accustomed to fostering international and collaborative environments, haven't historically been as attentive to security as they should be.

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S&P 500 hangs close to record as stocks churn

By STAN CHOE DAMIAN J. TROISE Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — U.S. stock indexes hung close to their record levels in afternoon trading on Monday, as markets wait for the next development in trade talks between the United States and China.

All three major indexes were nearly unchanged from where they finished Friday, but the seemingly placid moves masked plenty of churn going on underneath. The S&P 500 was split nearly evenly between winners and losers, and strength for technology and media stocks made up for sharp losses by oil producers.

The market has been on a tear since early October, and indexes have set alltime highs as worries about a possible recession faded. The gains have been not only strong but also nearly uninterrupted, bolstered by solid economic data, better corporate earnings than analysts expected and interest-rate cuts by the Federal Reserve.

That leaves negotiations in ald Trump hoped to have signed the first phase of a trade deal by now, at a major international summit that was scheduled for this past weekend. But the president of the summit's host nation, Chile, canceled the meeting last month amid



This Aug. 23, 2019, file photo shows the New York Stock Exchange in New York.

nationwide protests.

The two sides are continuing to negotiate, with stock markets around the world swinging on every hint of progress or tension.

"Things are somewhat stable right now, which is really crazy when I think about the geopolitical issues going on abroad and in the U.S.," said Mike Loewengart, vice president of investment strategy at the U.S.-China trade war as E-Trade Financial. "But we the remaining wild card for caution investors to have the market. President Don-reasonable expectations for additional gains going forward: Hope for the best, but be mindful that we could see an uptick in volatility at any time."

KEEPING SCORE: The S&P 500 index was up 0.1% as of 2:15 p.m. Eastern time. It Brent crude, the internadrifted between small gains tional standard, sank \$1.14

and losses through the day and was down 0.3% shortly after trading began.

The Dow Jones Industrial Average rose 32 points, or 0.1%, to 28,037. The Nasdaq added 0.1%. The Russell 2000 index of smaller company stocks fell 0.3%.

CHURNING: The modest gains for market indexes mask how much movement was going on underneath.

Energy stocks in the S&P est loss by far among the 11 sectors that make up the index. Chevron dropped 1.7%, and ConocoPhillips sank 3.1% as prices of oil and natural gas fell.

Benchmark U.S. crude lost \$1 to \$56.72 per barrel.

Associated Press to \$62.16 per barrel, and natural gas lost 3.5% to \$2.59 per 1,000 cubic feet.

GUARDING THE GAINS: The day's strongest stocks were in areas of the market that tend to pay big dividends and hold up even when the economy is slowing.

Real-estate stocks in the S&P 500 rose 0.8%, for example, while utilities and companies that make everyday goods for households both rose 0.7%.

known as "defensive" investments, and they had begun to lag the market in recent weeks as interest rose in companies whose profits can rise more quickly in a healthy economy.

But a drop in Treasury yields Monday may have made the dividends paid by defensive stocks more attractive. The yield on the 10year Treasury fell to 1.80% from 1.83% late Friday.

HOO AH: Technology stocks also rallied after the Commerce Department gave another 90-day extension for Chinese tech giant Huawei to continue doing business with U.S. companies. Nvidia bolted to the biggest gain in the S&P 500, up 4.3%, and Advanced Micro Devices rose 2.6%.

WEEK AHEAD: Several big retailers will report their results for the summer this week and close out the latest earnings season. More than 90% of companies in the S&P 500 have reported their latest earnings.

Home improvement retailer Home Depot will report results on Tuesday. Target and Lowe's will report results on Wednesday. Macy's and Gap will release their earnings on Thursday. Investors will get a more detailed look at the Federal Reserve's latest decision to cut interest rates when the central bank releases minutes from its October meeting on Wednesday.

KEEPING UP: CoverGirl owner Coty rose 1.5% after buy-500 sank 1.7% for the larg- These kinds of stocks are ing a majority of reality TV Star Kylie Jenner's beautv business.

> Jenner is part of the "Keeping Up with the Kardashians" reality show family. She founded Kylie Cosmetics in 2015, relying on her hundreds of millions of social media followers to promote the brand.

Mutts



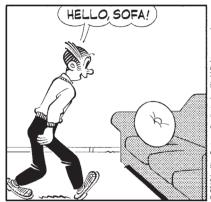




6 Chix



Blondie







Mother Goose & Grimm

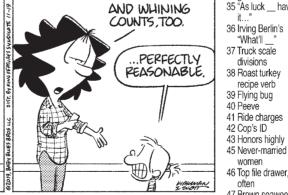




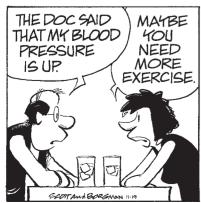
Baby Blues







Zits







Conceptis Sudoku

3								2 9		
3 5			4	2	8			9		
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	7	2		3		4	6			
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7			2	4	1			8		
8								7		
Difficulty Level **										

Difficulty Level ★★

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.

Yesterday's puzzle answer	1	7	9	3	5	2	8	6	4
	8	5	6	9	4	1	3	7	2
	2	4	3	7	8	6	5	9	1
	9	3	2	4	1	8	6	5	7
	4	6	7	2	9	5	1	3	8
	5	1	8	6	7	3	2	4	9
	7	2	5	8	6	4	9	1	3
	3	9	1	5	2	7	4	8	6
	6	8	4	1	3	9	7	2	5

ACROSS 1 Pam Tillis' dad 4 Conscious

9 "The __, the merrier" 13 Eve's man 15 Wilson of "The Beach Boys"

16 Wood-splitting tools 17 Pleasant 18 Wallet contents 19 Profound 20 Knoxville's state 22 Williams or Griffith

23 SAT, for one 24 May honoree 26 Crossword answer direction 29 Aristocrat 34 Upper-body garment

35 "As luck __ have 36 Irving Berlin's "What'∥ຸ 37 Truck scale

divisions 38 Roast turkey recipe verb 39 Flying bug 40 Peeve 41 Ride charges 42 Cop's ID 43 Honors highly 45 Never-married women

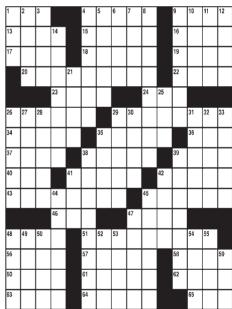
often 47 Brown seaweed 48 British Upper House member 51 Horrifying 56 Very éager 57 Traveler's path

58 "All You Is

Love"; Beatles hit 27 To-do list item 60 Prisoner's room 61 Actress Potts 62 Way to get through a fence 63 Patella's place 64 Tricycle riders 65 __away; escaped 32 Oft-repeated

DOWN

1 Gent 2 Correct a manuscript



Created by Jacqueline E. Mathews

3 Bridal veil

4 Convent head

5 Hand-arm

connection

6 Needs a doctor

7 Curly cabbage

8 Instrumental

señora 10 Plow animals

11 Robert or Donna

12 Get a glimpse of

14 Trusted guides

21 Wasp's home

25 __ Testament 26 Moving around

28 Skating ovals

pauses

to do

29 Facial features 30 Time-__; game

31 Dislikes having

saying 33 Sheet music

symbols

35 Where to apply

Compound W

group 9 Soissons

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Monday's Puzzle Solved SMACKARCH TERRETTALE O U S T A D M O N I T I O N P E P C L A S P R I N D S LONERS RACERS ILIADPRIESELF NOOK BEANS STIR GNUBBASTESLIME S C O R T S P A R S E H U B P L U M E ESCORT A P R O N S Q U I D M B A B L O O D H O U N D P E O N L E T S A L I C E A N D Y E A S Y S O P H S S T Y ©2019 Tribune Content Agency, LLC All Rights Reserved.

38 Casino card game 39 Struggling to

breathe 41 Winter month: abbr. 42 Invoice 44 Propel a canoe

45 Wild brawls 47 Ms. Couric

48 Have none of 49 Kitchen necessity 50 Aggravate 52 Child's horse 53 Young hoodlum 54 __ miss; close call

55 "__ grip!"; cry to the hysterical 59 Cub Scout group



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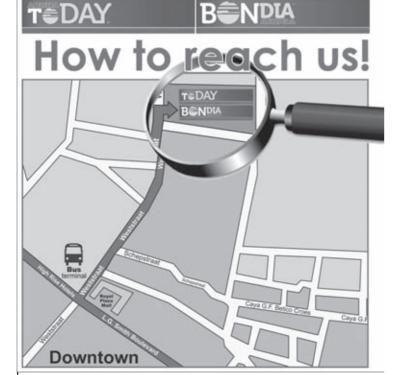
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** Destination points \$8 per

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November 19 Freedom of the Seas Marella Discovery 2 M.S. Hampshire

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Old dogs, new tricks: 10,000 pets needed for science

By CARLA K. JOHNSON **AP Medical Writer**

SEATTLE (AP) — Can old dogs teach us new tricks? Scientists are looking for 10,000 pets for the largestever study of aging in canines. They hope to shed light on human longevity too.

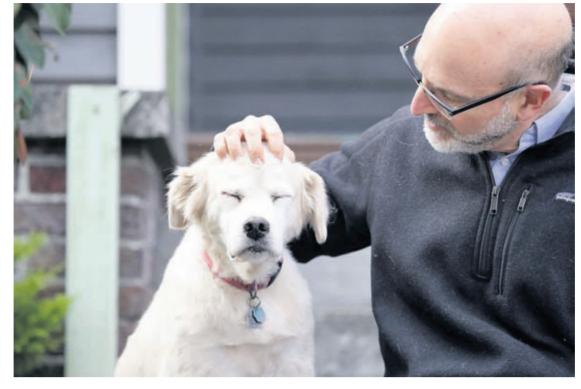
The project will collect a pile of pooch data: vet records, DNA samples, gut microbes and information on food and walks. Five hundred dogs will test a pill that could slow the aging process.

"What we learn will potentially be good for dogs and has great potential to translate to human health," said project co-director Daniel Promislow of the University of Washington School of Medicine.

If scientists find a genetic marker for a type of cancer in dogs, for instance, that could be explored in humans.

For the study, the dogs will live at home and follow their usual routine. All ages and sizes, purebreds and mutts are welcome.

Owners will complete periodic online surveys and take their dogs to the vet once a year, with the possibility of extra visits for certain tests. Their welfare will be monitored by a bioethicist and a panel of animal



In this Monday, Nov. 11, 2019 photo, University of Washington School of Medicine researcher Daniel Promislow, the principal investigator of the Dog Aging Project grant, rubs the head of his elderly dog Frisbee at their home in Seattle.

welfare advisers.

To nominate a pet, owners can visit the Doa Aaina Project's website.

The five-year study was formally launched Thursday at a science meeting in Austin, Texas. The National Institute on Aging is paying for the \$23 million project because dogs and humans share the same environment, get the same diseases and dogs' shorter lifespans allow quicker research results, said deputy director, Dr. Marie Bernard.

The data collected will be available to all scientists. Leslie Lambert of Parkville, Maryland, enrolled her 11-year-old rescue dog, Oscar, in an early phase.

"I would selfishly like to have him around forever," said the 33-year-old veterinarian. "Unfortunately, he ages much, much faster than I do."

But she's torn by the prospect of an anti-aging pill because so many abandoned dogs go without care. "Just because we **Associated Press**

can, should we?" Compared to farm dogs

in the past, today's pampered pups live longer and get more geriatric diseases, said veterinarian Dr. Kate Creevy of Texas A&M University, the project's chief scientific officer.

Yet no standard measures exist for frailty or prognosis in sick, aged dogs, Creevy said. The project will develop those tools.

One dog year is roughly equal to seven human that varies by breed. Large dogs have shorter lifespans than smaller dogs.

A Great Dane's lifespan is about half that of a toy poodle's.

That makes large dogs better test subjects for the pill. Dogs weighing at least 40 pounds will be eligible for an experiment with rapamycin, now taken by humans to prevent rejection of transplanted kidneys. The drug has extended lifespan in mice. A small safety study in dogs found no dangerous side effects, said project co-director Matt Kaeberlein of the University of Washington.

Human devotion to dogs drives projects like this, the scientists said. Owners will gladly fill out surveys, send records and submit a pup's poop for analysis if they think it will help all dogs live longer, even if it won't help their pet.

"People love dogs," said Promislow, who normally studies aging in fruit flies. "No one has ever come up to me and said, 'Oh my goodness, I just love fruit flies.'"

Promislow's mixed breed, 14-year-old Frisbee, will not participate to prevent a conflict of interest.

"It's too bad because she's a terrific example of a realyears, Creevy said, but ly healthy ager," he said.



In this Nov. 14, 2019, photo, a lander is lifted during a test of hovering, obstacle avoidance and deceleration capabilities at a facility in Huailai in China's Hebei province, Thursday, Nov. 14, 2019.

Associated Press



China tests Mars lander in international cooperation push

By SAMUEL McNEIL **Associated Press**

HUAILAI, China (AP) — China showed off its Mars spacecraft during a landing test Thursday as the country pushes for inclusion in more global space projects.

The demonstration of hovering, obstacle avoidance and deceleration capabilities was conducted at a site outside Beijing simulating conditions on the red planet, where the pull of gravity is about one-third that of Earth.

China plans to launch a lander and rover to Mars next year to explore parts of the planet, one of four scheduled missions. The U.S. and Europe are also sending rovers to Mars next year, and the United Arab Emirates plans to launch an orbiter.

China's burgeoning space program achieved a lunar milestone earlier this year by landing a spacecraft on the mysterious far side of the moon.

It has developed rapidly, especially since it conducted its first crewed mission in 2003, and has sought cooperation with space agencies from Europe and elsewhere.

The U.S., however, has banned most space cooperation with China out of national security concerns, keeping China from participating in the International Space Sta-

Despite that, China's ambitions continue to grow as it seeks to rival the U.S., Russia and Europe in space and cement its position as a regional and global power. It is gradually constructing its own larger, more permanent space station in which it has invited foreign participation.

The lander on Thursday successfully avoided ground obstacles during a simulated low-gravity descent, according to the China Aerospace Science and Technology Corporation, the Chinese space program's main contractor.



Jon Voight, Alison Krauss honored with national medals



In this March 28, 2019, file photo, Jon Voight attends the Champions of Jewish Values International Awards gala at Carnegie Hall in New York.

Associated Press

Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Oscar-winning actor Jon Voight, singer and musician Alison Krauss and mystery writer James Patterson are among the artists and philanthropists being honored by President Donald Trump for their contributions to the arts or the humanities, the first recipients of prestigious national medals since Trump took office.

The White House announced four recipients of the National Medal of Arts and four of the National Humanities Medal in a statement Sunday night. Voight is one of Trump's few vocal Hollywood backers, and has hailed him as "the greatest president of this century." Trump is also honoring the musicians of the U.S. military, who frequently entertain at White House events.

Trump will award the medals during a ceremony at the White House on Thursday.

While the honors had been an annual affair during past administrations, they have not been awarded since Trump's inauguration in January 2017. The most recent arts or humanities medals were bestowed by President Barack Obama in September 2016.

The recipients of the National Medal of Arts are:

—Alison Krauss, the bluegrass-country singer and musician, "for making extraordinary contributions to American music." The White House misspelled her name in its release.

—Sharon Percy Rockefeller "for being a renowned champion of the arts, generous supporter of charity, and a pioneer of new ideas and approaches in the field of public policy."

—The Musicians of the United States Military "for personifying excellence in music and service to country."

—Jon Voight "for his exceptional capacity as an actor to portray deeply

complex characters." Voight starred in "Midnight Cowboy," the 1969 film that won an Academy Award for best picture, and he won the best actor Oscar for 1978's "Coming Home."

He appears in the Showtime series "Ray Donovan."

The recipients of the National Humanities Medal are:

—The Claremont Institute "for championing the Nation's founding principles and enriching American minds."

—Teresa Lozano Long "for supporting the arts and improving educational opportunities" through scholarships and philanthropy.

—Patrick O'Connell, the chef at The Inn at Little Washington, "for being one of the greatest chefs of our time."

—James Patterson "for being one of the most successful American authors of our time." Patterson wrote a book about Jeffrey Epstein, the disgraced financier who killed himself while awaiting trial on charges of sexually abusing teenage girls. The book includes several references to Trump, including an account of the men's falling out.

The National Endowment for the Arts and the National Endowment for the Humanities solicit candidates for the medals and compile proposed winners. The White House, which sometimes adds its own nominees, traditionally approves and announces them ahead of a presidential ceremony.

Trump has had an uneasy if not hostile relationship with many in the arts and the humanities who oppose his policies and have denounced his presidency. He has been largely shunned by Hollywood and has skipped events like the annual Kennedy Center gala that is one of Washington's premier social gatherings after some honorees said they would not attend if Trump was part of the ceremony.



This cover image released by Walt Disney Records shows the original motion picture soundtrack for "Frozen II."

Associated Press

'Frozen 2' soundtrack struggles in shadow of first

By MARK KENNEDY Associated Press

Various artists, "Frozen 2" (Walt Disney Records)

No, there's no new "Let It Go." Let it go.

The "Frozen 2" soundtrack brings together everyone's favorite princesses — Elsa and Anna — the snowman Olaf, good guy Kristoff and his faithful reindeer, Sven, for an impossible task: improving or matching the first "Frozen" movie's songs. Songwriters Kristen Anderson-Lopez and Robert Lopez have offered seven — six, if we're being honest — original songs and they're all lovely, rooted in Broadway traditional structures and each playing a key role in keeping the animated film moving. None will spend 33 weeks on the Billboard Hot 100 charts like "Let It Go" but they deserve to be cherished on their own merits.

The template hasn't really changed. Like in the first, everyone gets a song Josh Gad's Olaf sings his comedic "When I Am Older," Idina Menzel gets the roof-raising (closest thing to "Let It Go") "Into the Unknown," Jonathan Groff's Kristoff has the melancholy (and slightly reminiscent of a lost tune by the band Chicago) "Lost in the Woods" and Kristen Bell's Anna closes it out with the mournful "The Next Right Thing."

But this time Evan Rachel

Wood — as Elsa and Anna's deceased mother — sings "All Is Found" and joins Menzel on "Show Yourself." Norwegian singer Aurora lends the soundtrack a whole bunch of spooky ahhhs and ooooohs as a supernatural presence. One nice touch is all four leads singing together in the sweet "Some Things Never Change," which, with its refrain of "I'm holding on tight to you" is the inverse of "Let It Go."

We get a direct link to the first film with the song fragment "Reindeer(s) Are Better Than People (Cont.)" and it is awesome to hear Menzel's voice in fifth gear again. But missing are the inventive lyrics from the first, the "frozen fractals all around" and "Bees'll buzz/kids'll blow dandelion fuzz." The lyrics this time are straightforward, less playful. It's a more emotional album than the first, more mature and internal.

The album also includes remakes of three of the songs that play over the end credits.

Panic! At The Disco superbly redo "Into the Unknown" into a glam rock song. Kacey Musgraves does a rootsy, almost Simon and Garfunkel version of "All Is Found" and Weezer does a very Weezer take on "Lost in the Woods." The whole album is wonderful, but it has unattainably big snowshoes to fill.



Hanks anchors a lovely Mister Rogers tale for adults

By LINDSEY BAHR Associated Press

Director Marielle Heller frames "A Beautiful Day in the Neighborhood" as if it were an episode of "Mister Rogers' Neighborhood," with miniature sets of cars and bridges to illustrate New York and Pittsburgh. Mr. Rogers, played with clear-eyed purpose by Tom Hanks, introduces the audience to the film's

protagonist, journalist Lloyd Vogel (Matthew Rhys), using his "picture window" in that all-too-familiar living room where he's just changed into his sneakers and sweater. It's even rated PG.

But "A Beautiful Day" is not really a children's story at all. It's a story about a man who suffers from the doubly impossible combination of being an adult and an in-



This image released by Sony Pictures shows Tom Hanks as Mister Rogers in a scene from "A Beautiful Day In the Neighborhood," in theaters on Nov. 22.

vestigative journalist. In other words, he's the person (like gleast likely to be charmed with his

by the straightforward sincerity of someone like Fred

togers.

The film is loosely based on Tom Junod's article "Can You Say...'Hero'?" which appeared in Esquire Magazine in November of 1998. Junod has said that spending time with the then 70-year-old changed him. Cynical at first, the two formed a friendship — Junod's first ever with a subject — that would last until Rogers' death in 2003.

The similarities stop there and the film veers off in its own direction, adding drama and elements that are **Associated Press** f Junod's life at all

not part of Junod's life at all (like getting into a fistfight with his father at his sister's wedding, neither of which happened). But as Junod writes in The Atlantic this month, the film "seems like a culmination of the gifts that Fred Rogers gave me and all of us, gifts that fit the definition of grace because they feel, at least in my case, undeserved."

Essentially, Fred Rogers' lessons can apply to adults too. And "A Beautiful Day in the Neighborhood" spins its magic to show (not just tell) us how, no matter if it's mostly a fiction from the minds of screenwriters Micah Fitzerman-Blue and Noah Harpster.

The film introduces Lloyd at a particularly unstable moment. He's got a newborn son with his wife, Andrea (an understated and excellent Susan Kelechi Watson), and his long-estranged father (Chris Cooper) has suddenly started trying to come back into his life. It's under these high-pressure circumstances that his editor (Christine Lahti) assigns him to write a "small piece" about Fred Rogers for the magazine's "heroes issue." Lloyd scoffs at what he considers a demeaning assignment. He's there to be an investigative journalist and the host of a cheesy children's show is, he thinks, below him. Andrea even asks her husband, knowing what kind of writer he is, to please not ruin her childhood.He remains skeptical even upon meeting Fred and goes back to his editor to ask for more time, saying that he "just doesn't think he's for real." Sure, part of you is probably thinking Lloyd a monster. But consider Lloyd's point of view too: Fred uses puppets during his interview and deflects quite a bit on the more pressing questions, often diverting and asking about his interviewer instead of answering.



App Store

Czech filmmaker Vojtech Jasny dies at age 93

Associated Press

PRAGUE (AP) — Vojtech Jasny, a filmmaker who belonged to the new wave of Czechoslovak cinema in the 1960s, has died. He was 93. Slovacke divadlo, a theatre he frequently visited, said that Jasny died Friday. A family representative confirmed his death to the CTK news agency.

From the 1950s, Jasny made some 50 movies in Czecho-slovakia and later in the West when he emigrated after the 1968 Soviet-led invasion of Czechoslovakia. His most famous film, "All My Good Countrymen," from 1968, about the brutal changes in the country under communism, was banned in his homeland. It won the best director award at the Cannes Film



In this May 10, 2016, file photo, Vojtech Jasny, Czech film director and scriptwriter, poses for photographers in Prague, Czech Republic.

Associated Press

Festival in 1969. In the 1980s, Jasny settled in the United States, lecturing at Columbia University. He later returned home.

Jasny's "Hell on Earth," featuring testimonies of Holocaust survivors, was part of 2002's "Broken Silence,"

a five-film documentary project commissioned by Steven Spielberg's Survivors of the Shoah Visual History Foundation.

Jasny's father was killed in the Nazi death camp of Auschwitz during World War II.

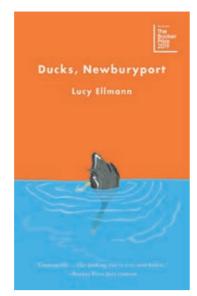


Lucy Ellmann's 'Ducks, Newburyport' is brilliant, addictive

By DONNA LIQUORI **Associated Press**

"Ducks, Newburyport," Biblioasis, by Lucy Ellmann When you mention to people that you're reading a nearly 1,000-page book that's mostly one sentence, the reaction is odd. Some people roll their eyes, others get a little angry over the audacity. But when you say the book is brilliant, incredulity seems to take over.

"Ducks, Newburyport" by Lucy Ellmann IS brilliant and addictive. The main character is an unnamed woman who is a mom, cancer survivor, wife and baker, who also raises chickens. She's trying to hold it together after her family is hit with numerous challenges and she's struggling. Maybe she's all of us, at least the moms, anyway. Shortlisted for the Booker Prize, the novel takes place



This cover image released by Biblioasis shows "Ducks, Newburyport," by Lucy Ellmann.

Associated Press

in Ohio and offers a monologue of thoughts (many, many thoughts) on President Donald Trump, Otis elevator operators, school shootings, pies (many, many pies), laundry, chickens, mothers, bridges, riv-

ers, Indian mounds, her The reason this book resochildhood dog and more. The listings, beginning with "the fact that" and separated by commas, aren't just lumped together.

There's an art to them, a rhythm, that sort of takes you:

"the fact that I don't know how animals think but I think in spirals, dizzying spirals, the fact that the WWF video of a deaf girl talking in sign language to an orangutan was completely fake, and I fell for it, the fact that, landsakes, orangutans don't campaign for the rainforest, the fact that the good news right now is that animals don't yet know we've wrecked the place, or they don't know we did it at least, or they'd come after us, red in tooth and claw, the fact that it's actually pretty lucky they don't blame us for it, not like in The Birds ..."

nates is that we all seem to be thinking in spirals, fueled by nonstop news, social media and multiple screens. While the narrative seemingly jumps from one topic to another in sort of a random stream of consciousness, reading it is an act of focus because it's so mesmerizing. We can all relate to money problems, raising children and illness. Throw in climate change, gun violence and anxiety and you have a picture of what the United States is right now. It's no mistake that the protagonist is a former college history teacher who weaves historical atrocities and trivia in with old movies, an obsession with "Little House on the Prairie" and tales from her childhood as she bakes multiple pies for her current business.

The book could easily dissolve, considering its length, but Ellmann fortifies it with mini-surprises tucked in throughout the narrative. (Yes, this book has a plot and sticking with it offers a big payoff ending.) The meaning of the title, "Ducks, Newburyport," is buried in there too, and it's unexpected and touching. There's also a parallel story told with fully realized sentences about a lioness and her cubs that at times is harrowing.

It's the lovely bits of this beautiful life despite all the ugliness that makes this book really resonate. It's not all a horror show, especially when the character talks about the tender relationship that she has with her family and her husband,

There have been comparisons to James Joyce's "Ulysses," but Ellmann is in a class by herself.

Chang says his new Netflix show honors Bourdain

By MICHAEL CIDONI LEN-NOX

Associated Press

LOS ANGELES (AP) — With its food-travel fusion and trips to parts unknown, "Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner" host David Chang says he understands why critics are making comparisons to work done by his late friend and colleague Anthony Bourdain.

"I don't know how you couldn't," said the restaurateur, chef and food personality. "He was a pretty significant person in my life. But, whether we were successful or not, the last thina we would ever want to do is to not be respectful and pay homage. He was a pretty significant person in my life. ... The whole thing was hard to do, for obvious reasons. But, you know, we tried very hard and we were very aware of trying to make it a different show."

Bourdain, a chef and author, was known for using culinary traditions as a storytelling tool to explore cultures around the globe in his CNN series, "Parts Unknown." He killed himself in



This image released by Netflix shows host David Chang, right, and actor Seth Rogen eating donuts at Lee's Donuts in Vancouver, Canada, in a scene from the Netflix series, "Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner."

2018.

Perhaps what's most different about Chang's new Netflix series is the sweet and occasionally salty chef himself. His empire includes woman to win an Emmy restaurants, cookbooks and now two Netflix shows. The first, "Ugly Delicious," debuted in 2018.

The first four episodes of "Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner" pair Chang with celebrities as they explore a city — Chrissy Teigen in Marrakesh, Kate McKinnon

in Phnom Penh, Seth Rogen in Vancouver and Lena Waithe in Los Angeles.

It's with the history-making Waithe — the first black for comedy screenwriting — where things get most interesting. They chat in a nofrills, suburban Los Angeles diner as the conversation turns to their respective lack of representation in mainstream America. Waithe is gay. Chang's parents immigrated from Korea in

Associated Press the '60s.

Representation is an important subject for Chang. In September, he told a Washington Post interviewer that the ethnic food aisles in grocery stores are "the last bastion of racism" in retail America.

In talking to The Associated Press, Chang presented an example. "Why should my hot sauce be in an ethnic food aisle, but Tabasco is in a main aisle?"

Even so, in terms of avail-

ability and information, this is a golden age of food, Chang said. Consumers, manufacturers and the culinary industry are better informed than ever. But the ripples from climate change could lead to a "different kind of food system,'' he said.

"We may eat things differently," he said. "My dad used to tell me, man, 'When I got an orange once a year, that was the greatest day of my life.'... And we may have to go back to that. And I don't know what that looks like. But we can't get whatever we want anymore."

There's also been personal change for Chang as he and his wife, Grace, became parents with the birth of their son, Hugo.

"It's definitely, like, you know, everyone says, 'changes your life,' and I'm trying to find how to find a better balance," Chang said. "I'm a work in progress, man. And working a lot is what I know how to do. And I do know that, soon, I'm going to have to learn how not to work so hard."



No training, no gloves: Zimbabwe's desperate childbirths

By FARAI MUTSAKA Associated Press

HARARE, Zimbabwe (AP)
— When her contractions became unbearably painful, 18-year-old Perseverance Kanyoza rushed to a maternity hospital in Zimbabwe's capital, Harare. But the doors were closed amid a weekslong strike by

no money for private care, panic set in.

A hospital guard directed her to a tiny apartment in the poor suburb of Mbare nearby. The midwife: a

public health workers. With

grandmother with no formal training and claiming to be guided by the Holy Spirit.

Thirteen hours later, Kanyoza gave birth to a healthy baby girl.

"It was a miracle," she told The Associated Press with a beaming smile. "I feared for the worst. I didn't know what to do after finding the hospital closed."

Her baby was one of dozens delivered in the past week alone with the help of 72-year-old Esther Zinyoro Gwena. She has become a local hero as the southern African country's worst economic crisis in more than a decade is forcing desperate women to seek out traditional birth attendants who often deliver babies using their bare hands with no sterilization or post-natal care.

Some worried Zimbabweans say Gwena's work only highlights the collapse of a health sector once regarded as one of the best in Africa. Doctors have been on strike for more than two months, seeking better



72-year old grandmother Esther Zinyoro Gwena is seen in her a tiny apartment in the poor surburb of Mbare in Harare, Zimbabwe, Saturday, Nov. 16, 2019.

pay than the roughly \$100 they receive a month, and nurses and midwives in Harare walked off the job two weeks ago.

Since then, Gwena said, she has delivered more than 100 babies and no mothers have died. She doesn't charge for her services and helping stranded pregnant women is her concern.

"I never trained as a midwife. I started by befriending pregnant women at the church and then eight years ago I just started delivering babies. It is the holy spirit," she said.

"I have had no rest since the nurses' strike started. The work is becoming too much for one person. I am even losing weight," Gwena said.

She said she has been delivering up to 20 babies a day in her two-room apartment. When the AP visited on Saturday, four pregnant women writhed in pain while sitting on blankets on the floor in the tiny living room-turned-maternity ward. The bedroom is now the "recovery room" where several women holding newborn babies huddled on Gwena's small bed.

"They need the bed more," she said. "I rarely get time to sleep, they are always coming in ... in the middle of the night."

Neighbors, relatives of the pregnant women and some of Gwena's children, who help clean the blood, fetch water from a nearby well and cook, sat on a bench. Others stood in the packed room.

"Make way, another one is coming," one woman shouted. A heavily pregnant young woman walked in carrying a small plastic

Associated Press

bucket, blanket and bag. Less than two hours later, the number of pregnant women had swelled to 10, their bags piled in a corner. More stood in line in the hallway outside.

"I was apprehensive," said Grace Musariri, one of the women in line. "But I have already seen four women leaving with their babies in the few hours I was here. The fear is gone."

The makeshift maternity ward contained little but boxes of cotton and gloves donated by President Emmerson Mnangagwa's wife, Auxillia, who visited on Friday after Gwena's story made headlines in Zimbabwe's state media.

Before her visit "I used my bare hands," Gwena said. She asks women to bring their own razor blades, cord clamps and other items.

"My biggest challenges are

space, water and protective clothing. I need help, and fast," she told a team of senior health officials who visited on Saturday.

She told them she had delivered 15 babies overnight and seven more before lunchtime.

One birth caused a brief scare. The baby popped out but seemed lifeless. Some in the room held their breath. Others screamed and the mother began to cry. Gwena splashed water on the baby's forehead and the child let out a cry. "She is so big," one woman exclaimed, joining others in cleaning a pool of blood from plastic that would be reused later. "Throughout Harare there are a lot of traditional birth attendants," he said. "If you go to our clinics right now they are empty. Where are these women going to? They are now comina to deliver here. There are no follow-ups when these women have delivered. It's really worryina."

"There is no proper management of blood and blood products," he said. "After birth, what happens? There are certain processes that need to happen during labor and after labor both to the mother and to the child. These are now missed opportunities." Those include helping to prevent HIV transmission from mother to child.

The health director added, "I am really depressed, to say the least. Something needs to be done. This is not the way to deliver health services in an urban, local authority." He told Gwena he would put in a word with his bosses to provide her with more gloves, cord clamps, sterile linens and other items.

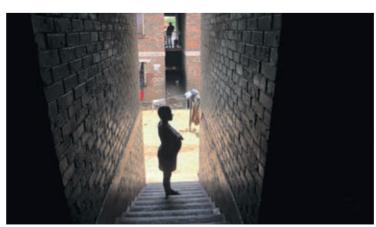
The pregnant women flooding Gwena's apartment are happy to receive any assistance as state-provided services either become unavailable or sharply deteriorate.

"Both my child and I could have died had it not been for Gogo (grandmother)," said Kanyoza, the new mother, making her way home.



Perseverance Kanyoza, left, shows her newly delivered baby, after the birth in a tiny apartment in the poor suburb of Mbare in Harare, Zimbabwe, Saturday, Nov. 16, 2019.

Associated Press



A pregnant woman waits in a passageway, waiting for her turn to deliver her baby, in a tiny apartment in the poor surburb of Mbare in Harare, Zimbabwe, in this Saturday, Nov. 16, 2019, with the help of 72-year old grandmother Esther Zinyoro Gwena.

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